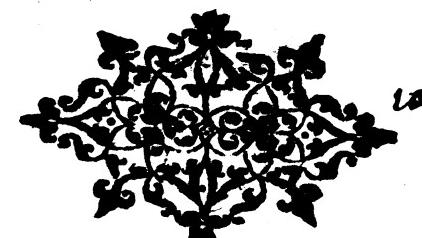
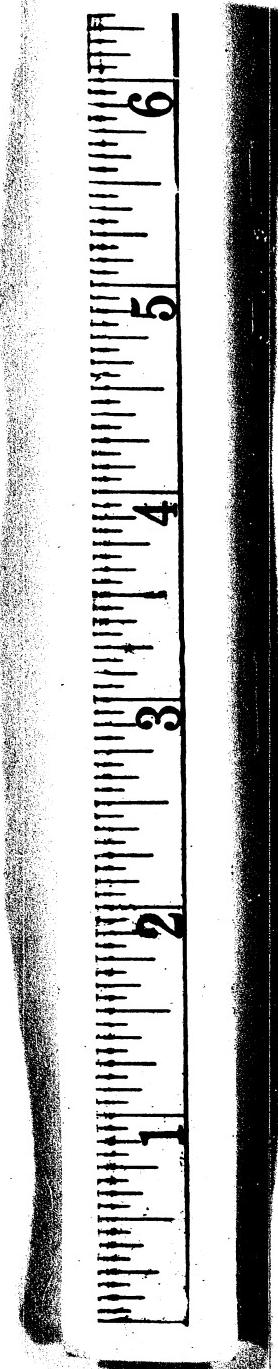


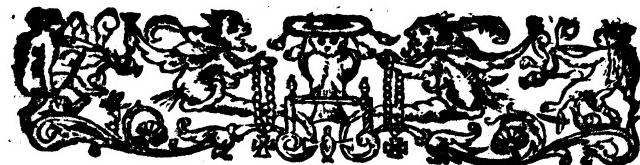
THE
Famous Historie of
Chinon of England, with his
strange aduentures for the loue of Ce-
lestina daughter to Lewis King
of Fraunce.

With the worthy Atchiuement
of Sir Lancelot du Lake, and Sir Tristram
du Lions for faire Laura, daughter to Ca-
der Earle of Cornwall, beeing all
Knights of King Arthurs
round Table.
By Chr. Middleton.

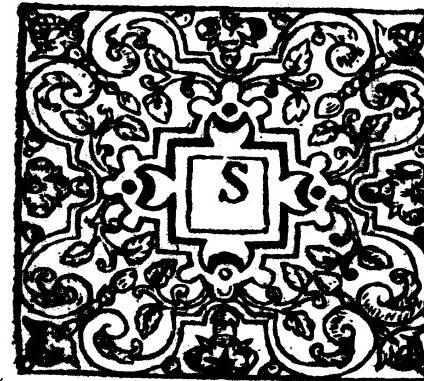


AT LONDON,
Printed by John Danter, for Cuthbert Burbie, and
are to be sold at his shop by the Royall
Exchange. 1597.





To the right worshipfull Master
Edrard Stan'cy Esquire.



I R, were I not more comforted with assurance of your Generous disposition, than perswaded of a nies merit on my part, by offering the Patronage of

this Historie to your hands ; I shoud as certainly dispaire of the acceptaunce, as I am vncertaine whether it bee worthie to bee accepted. From the time of my first entraunce in Printing till now, it is the first Booke of this kinde I euer had power to dedicate, from my first yeres of capacitie to read anie printed thing, my affectionate dutie hath to your W. been dedicated.

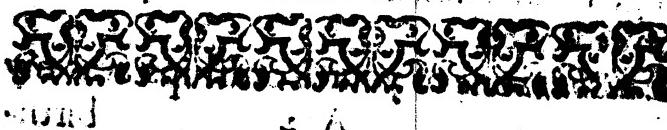
Enisham one of your Lordships was my
A 2 birth.

The Epistle Dedicatory.

birth-place ; and as my Frends therc pay due ties for the place they liue in, so render I this here as part of my dutieous loue.

The Authour of the Booke hath left it to the wide world without a Patron, perchance esteeming it vnworthie protection : neyther doo I thinke it in the least part worthie your protection, before whose excellent judgement (so daily conuersant among the most iudicall) it cannot but vanish like light smoake before a bright flame. All my excuse is loue, all my request is pardon ; which as (I first inferd) your noble disposition assures mee of. On which foundation building, I cease now to bee more bold.

Your M^r orships, most dutifullie affectionate :
John Dancer,
sonne to John Dancer, knight, and
brother unto Sir John Dancer, Knight.



SUNDAY

c. 6



The famous History of Chinon of England, Sonne to Lord Cador Earle of Cornwall, with his rare atchiuements for faire Cellestina daughter to Lewes King of Fraunce.

C H A P. I.

How Chinon the Earle of Cornewalles Sonne was borne a foole, and of the excellent ornaments of nature wherewith his faire Sister Laura was beautified.



¶ the beginning of this flourishing Kingdome, when Arthur then Monarch of this little worlde, with his attendant Knights, whose valorous exploits every where acted for theyr Countries honour, hath eternized their euerlasing names, euen in the farthest coasts of the barbarous Pagans, where yet in despite of consuming time lives their eternal Trophies as spectacles for all posterities.

¶

In

The famous Historic

In this time lived there in England an auncient Knight, whome this famous king for his many morits and well deseruing deedes, had installed in the Earldome of Cornwall, a dignitie as hee thought fitting the deserts of this famius man, that had so often vndergoen the furious attempts of the viciuill Pagans, enemies to God, foes to his countrie, and great hindrance to the then but young plants of springing Christianity, as also endeuoring himselfe cuery where to defend the fame of his countrie, then of all other only fame worthy the Honour of his order euery where honored, and the dutie belonging to his Knighthood, which hee alwaies performed, till at the last when the waight of many wearie yeares, gan bothe his declining bodie dwone to the lowly earth, making his oft tried Armour too heauie a burthen for his now war weakened body, his brandishing sword beating downe his age fallen armes, and every supporter of his lustie limmes beginnes to faile of their former force, he determinis to end his life in peace at home, whose beginning he had spent in warres abroad, incouraging younger men with the spectacle of his former valours, couragiously themselves to attempt the like in deuouts.

In which time of his home abroad, the heauenis bles-
ses him with two goodly Children, a Sonne & a Daugh-
ter: but yet as it is the continual course of al ruling for-
tune to mire with every god some ill, with euerie sweet
a lowre, & with every sunshine shewe of promising hap, a
tempestuous storme of ill beading hurt, so fareth it in the
issue of this yet unhappy Prince: for when the sea-
ling houres of all ripening time had brought them from
their Infant Cradelles to some participation of sensible
knowledge, his Daughter whose name was Laura, so
forwardly prospered in every Liniment of her beauti-
full bodie, & all eternall quallities of a vertuous minde:

so

of Chinon of England.

so that in short time she became the censured subiect of all wise iudgements, in determination whether nature had better beautified her bodie, (where indeede she had exceeded her self) or the Gods qualifid her mind, wherin they had made her the only similitude of themselves. No penne that was not busied in painting her praises, though all too little for that purpose, and no tongue but was still telling her perfections, though they never could attaine them: for too bright was her beautie, to be shadowed in the coulored cunning of a mortall capacite, and too high her heauenly minde, to be enstauld with the earthlie weedes of mans base wit, that as the toilesome Sailers in the dangerous seas watching the misttures of a tedious night, doth with themselves mightily admire the gorgeous state of many twinkling stars, till when the siluer Moone proudlie rising from her glorioues bed, drawes backe their daseled eies to behold her more than common countenance: so fares it in this age of theirs, where no starre may compare with her state, no face with her faire fortune, no grace with the least glimme of her glorie: so to leaue to expresse that in wordes, which could not bee comprehended in all wits, never did nature before compose of so rude a Chaos, so comely a creature: But her Brother whose name was Chynon, outwardly formed in as faire a fashion, as might well beleeue the soane to such a sire, but in his minde more than a maimed man, wanting that portion of sensible capacity, which commonly doth accompany euene the meanest seruillie: So that by how much his Sister exceeded in extraordinarie wisdome, by so much was hee scanted in ordinary witte, where in steede of Princely feature, was nothing found but foolish behauour, for high atchiumentes boyish follies: for that which is required in a man, not so much as is commonly found in a childe, vncapable of the rudiments of good counsaile,

The famous Historic

counsaile, and basit to conceine the commodicie of come-
lie qualitie: whence as all men with admiration won-
dered at the one, so none but with commiseration pittied
the other, that so well fashioned a body shoulde containe
so ill formed a minde, strongly had nature forged hys
limbes, which promised his valour, but weakely had
the envious Fates framed his mind, wher was no hope
of better, So that heire nature unnaturally hand-
ling so god a subiect, had enclosed in the perfecte
body of a man, little better than the vnperfect soule of
a beast, like almost the imitating of an apish artificer,
that in faire sholues deciphers a formall substance, in eu-
rious cunning colours painting a Princely perfection,
which satisfies the outward sence as the same, but can-
not content the inward censem, beeing but a bare show:
So by every outward appearance was he iudged well,
till triall by experiance to every one proved him worse,
but how great a cosseilue it was to his carefull Parents,
I leauie it to the to consider whom experiance hath taught
to conceave the like inconuenience, great grieue was it
to his old father that had beene himselfe full of valour,
to see his young sonne though able, yet unsit for any such
endeavour, which turned his hoped for rest to haplesse ru-
ine, his aged mirth to angrie moane, and what so euer
other content, into a contrarie conceit, to see his poore
neighbours comfort their seruile lives with the sight
of their forward Children, and hee their vnsortunatke
Lord wanting that redresse which those poore creatures
in respect of him in such plentifull manner do daylie pos-
esse.

Thus grieuing to remember that whiche hee cannot
forget, and sorrie to haue so discontented an obie to his
aged eies, which he stil bewailed, though by no meanes
his grieue could be healed, atlast learnes with patience
to b:are that whiche with paines he canuoit amend, and
instantly

of Chinon of England.

instantly solicites the great Parlament of heauen, in
whose dispose rests the estate of all creatures, that in
their unsearchable wisedome they woulde either open
the eyes of his blinded soule, forged in the mistie vale of
a cloudy ignorance, or els cut short the vnplesant date
of his wearie life, and so prevent the ensuing ignominie
of his future times: where we must now leauie him a
while in his follie, till the processe of our History bring
vs thither againe.



CHAP. II.

How two of King Arthurs Knights, arived
in Earle Cadors Court, and how Launcelot
du Lake obtained the loue of faire Laura.



Wring which time this young Ladie
Daughter to this worthie Earle Cador,
with the report of her match-
les beautie, resounded in euery eare
the welcome sounde of selfe pleasing
loue, and thereby incited many ad-
uenturous Princes, and matchles
Knights to forsake their farthest Countries with con-
tentred trauailes, to confirme with their eyes what had
so

The famous Historie

so filled their longing eares, as doth the never moving
pele draue the adamantin tonche of enerie stely com-
paſſe, ſtill to direc† their purpoſe to one point, ſo fared it
here, whether declines the glaice of al eies, the thoughts
of all harts, and the aime of all actions, amongſt whom
arriued two Knightes of the honourable order of King
Arthur rounde Table, which was then ſo fullie furni-
ſhed with a peaceles troupe of couragious Cauiors,
as iuſtly compared with all countries for like compa-
ny, whose names were Sir Lancelot du-lake, and Sir
Trifram du-Lion, two wonders for their worthines,
matchles for their might, and for their curteſie exce-
ding compare: who amongſt many millions of other
brave Gallants there all for one purpose assembled,
proudly oppoſes themſelues againſt all approaching
powers both of foraine and homeborne foes that durſt
any way ſet themſelues againſt her Houeraignetie,
wherein they ſo valiantly behaued themſelues, especial-
lie Sir Lancelot du-lake, whose vndaunted courage
ſtreke ſuch terror to the hearts of his foes, and won ſuch
fauour in the ſight of his friends, as hee was generallie
admired of all; but especially of Laura whose maiden
heart beeing nowe touched with the prieke of affection,
receaued ſo deepe an iuþreſſion, as couid never after
be raged forth againe, and looke as there is no ſubſtance
without his accident, no fire without his ſtreake, no
shadow without his body: ſo ie there no loue how cloſe-
ly ſocuer it bee shadowed, hewe cunningly ſocuer it bee
diſembled, or how farre ſo cier remoued, but will by
ſome meaneſ maniſt it ſelſe, which in her proued true:
for though her modell countenance bluſhing, aſhamed
at firſt to diſcouer the earnest affection of a ſo ſonne con-
quer'd louer, labored what in her lay ſtill to repres her
new mounting thoughts winged with the aſpiring de-
ſence of a reſleſ louer: yet like fire the moze it is kept
downe

of Chinon of England.

downe the firer it riſeth, floods the ſurer they are ſtop-
ped, the ſouer they overflow their bankeſ, and windes
the greater that are their eppetitions, the moze furious
are their forcs: ſo fared it with the laboring heart of
this lawleſ louer, ſometimes determining to diſclose
with her tongue what lay ſo hid in her heart, and then
ſhe bluſhed for ſhaime: then determined to ſinother it
in obiſution; and then lookeſ ſhe pale as fainting in diſ-
paire: ne minute but there entred into her minde the
thought of a thouſand doubts, no doubt but redoubled
her troubleſome thoughtes, and both more and more
dou. t e s, ſtil / increases ſhe the unquenchable fire of her
loue-thirſting ſoule.

In that thinges by howe much they are hard to com-
paſſe, by ſo much are moze worth being once compaſſed,
gladly would ſhe forget that which moſt ſhee delighteth
to remember, ſaine would ſhe ſhunne the ſnare that ſhee
ſo willingly runneth into, and deſireſ to winke at that
ſhee doeth moſt deſire: On the other ſide the worthie
Knight diſpairing of his good fortune, or eiſ doubting
his former force, grew with melancholly demeanor to
ſpend haleſ in diſpaire, the dayes hee was wont to ouer-
paſſe in the fulnes of deſire, thinking eyther her affec-
tions were elſ where ſo thoroughly ſettled as could not be
ſeuered, or his worth merriting deſeanor deſcriued not
ſo much as a fayre aspect from thofe powerfull plannets
that guideſ the diſtrefſed eſtate of his ſicklie ſoul. Looke
as a weary wayfaring man, that tired with the toilſome
labor of a tedious traſualle, diſpaſſing with in his time
to enioy the end of his iourney, and therefore bleth a
ſpedier pace to perfourme his purpoſe, ſo fayett with
the ſtill troubled minde of this diſtrefſed Knight, who
determining with himſelfe how he might worke ſome
meaneſ that might merrite mercie in the moode cen-
ture of that diſdaineſfull Judge, who as he thought
with

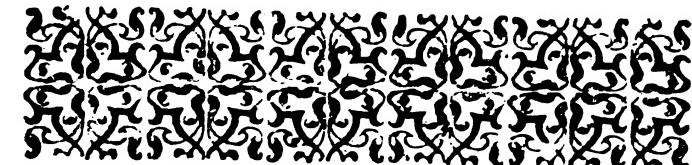
The famous Historie

with a feuere sentence , would rather pronounce his death than promise his life , determined with himselfe how he might doe his endeouour to obtain her frendly fauour, which with long cconsulation hee thus concluced , namely to vndertake some hardie aduenture , & dedicaue his laboure to her loue , and so if peraduenture the happie course of all helping heauens did so prosperously further his attempts , as that in his wearie plotted way , hee might but fortunatly finde any worthie worke , whose conquest might deserue commendations , he fed himselfe with this hope , that the settled perswation of his sure loue confirmed by the dangerous endeouors of his longing life , perfectly presented to her memorie , by the atcheiuements of his worthie victorie , wold somewhat allwage the fury of her contemptuous conceit , & if not at the first win her , yet by little & little weare out the blot from her memorie , that detaines his loue from her munde : yet least his abrupt departure might be a greater cause of his disgrace , hee determined before hee went to paint forth that passion in the vnblushing lines of an amorous letter , which he could not disclose with the inforne wordes of a pittie moouing louer , & therfore sequestring himselfe from the resort of all company , hee thus in pittifull termes discouers his pure loue .



Lanc-

of Chinon of England.



Lancelot du-Lake , to the Soueraigne of his soule , matchles faire Laura.



Aura , pardon my rude proceeding , in that I so barely begin with thy naked name , for that thou dimmest all accents of fayre , and exceedest all Epethites of wit , the Poets thought ~~Venus~~ fayrest when she was naked , for that her beautie being sufficient of it selfe , scorned all the artificiall ornaments of rich apparrell : And so of thee , whose shaddow fairer than her substance , canst not bee fitted with any stile which thou doest not farre surmount : Looke downe vpon the scruiile estate of a subiect slauie , that burning in the fierce flame of a neuer dying fire , prostrates his sillie soule at thy perfections shrine , so deeplye imprinted in his hart , as but the comfort of thy pleasing selfe , no salue may easc his dying smart ,

*C
only*

The famous Historie

onely thou hast hurt mee , and saue thy selfe
none can heale mee . Ah doo not then tri-
umph in my tragedie, because peculiarly from
thee proceedes my remedie : nor bee not
proude of thine Art, because thus pitcouslie I
implore thine aide, but with gentle fauour in-
tertaine what with humble submission I in-
treat ; and in requitall of that deede I will im-
pose to my selfe a toile without rest, a trauell
without end , and be a Conquerour without
conquest , till my ceaselesse paine may deserue
thy pittie , my toilesome trauell procure our
truce , and the Trophies of my victorie re-
quite some part of thy curtesie : Thus what
I doe or what I suffer , what I presently pos-
sess , or whatsoeuer I shall haue , I sacrifice at
thy Altar, as propitiatorie offrings, and with
the sad sighes of a sorrowfull hart cense thy
sacred Shrine , still intreating but this , that
thou wouldest gently accept these rude lines
of a rude Louer , and when discontented di-
stance shall diuorce mee from thy Angelicall
presence , thou wouldest at the least pittie my
sorrow, though thou wile not salue my sore.

*Tbincwhilst his owne
Lancelot du Lake.*

of Chinon of England.

This Letter he deliuered to a Page attendant
vpon him , and whilst his servant was gone to
conuay it to her , himselfe went in to take his leue
of the Duke and the rest of his Noble friends and sel-
low Knights , where with a tedious discourse he dis-
couers the cause of his so sodaine departure , vowing
his devoted seruice wholly to her honor , for whose
loue he was now forced to leaue his Country , and
seeke straunge Adventures in foraine Coastes ,
whom they all were sorry to forgoe ; yet seeing his im-
portance, solemnly commits him and his intended
enterprises to the god fortune of his still fauourable
starres, except Sir Tristram du-Lyons , who for loue
of him , and honourable care of his solemne order,
would needes in despite of what euer contrarie per-
swations, accompany him in his course : whom whe
Sir Lancelot had with many perswasse arguments
of forceable friendship diswaded from his indeuour,
laying open vnto him the great cause of his clefull
departure, which so devoutly hee had vowed to per-
forme , as also what discontent the absence of so ma-
ny Knights would breed in their King and Captaine
Arthur of England , whose royall furnished Table
had ransacked the treasurie of the world for to supply
his want : yet all in vaine stroake his wordes to dis-
wade the other from his will, for not all the sugered
wordes the others oratorie could afford , would anie
whit diswade him from his former purpose : but in
despite of what euer accident shoulde ensue, he would
needs accompany him in his tournie , vowing to su-
staine what hardy stroknes of abiet misfortune soe-
uer shoulde betide this thrice famous Lancelot hys
vowed brother , that never shoulde the burning heate
of all sprynging sommer, nor the cruell colde of deade
killing winter, weale nor woe , prosperous felicitie,

The famous Historic

no3 aduerse extremitie , sunder their soules whilst
life did vhold their bodies : whom when Lancelot
saw that by no meane he could diswade, hee gentle
admits his so long desired company, and with as ma-
ny thankes accepts it, as the other with millions of
offers had vged it.



CHAP. III.

How Lancelot du-Lake , and Tristram du-
Lions arived in the French Kings Court, &
how Lancelot du-Lake ouercame Rode-
rigo Duke of Austria, and wonne the chie-
fest prizes in the Turnament, with other
thinges that hapned.



Bus these two aduenturers for ho-
no3, after they had solemnly tane
their leaues, ioyfully set forward
on their iournie , & with a prosp-
rous winde quickly cuts ouer the
calme consenting seas vnto the
country France from the furie of the sometime surg-
ing sea, and after their arival, being proudly moun-
ted

of Chinon of England.

ted vpon stately steedes, stout of courage , able of
limmes, and beauteous in shew, attended onely with
two Pages, who for that purpose they had appointed,
takes vpon them the nearest and directest way that
bordered vpon that coast where they lately landed, &
spending the partching heate almost of a whole som-
mers day wandring through desart woods and manie
vnpopled plaines : till when the sweating Horses,
of the weary sunne swiftly descending from the high-
est top of that heavenly hill, whence in his glory hee
overlookes the mightiest mountaines that the earth
affordes, & by their very traie summoned the silent
night vp to her wearie watch, they began to looke out
where they might espy any conuenient place for their
purpose , where that night they might repose them-
selves to rest.

At last after much curios search descending down
into the pleasant bottome of a lowlie dale , where by
chance ran from forth, the bowels of a mighty moun-
taine, a coole fresh spring , whose siluer current ha-
dowen over with the heat expelling power of thicke
tufted trees , refreshes the increase of all adioyning
vallies, who weary with wandering, and willing no
thing more than such pleasure as there was plentiful-
ly promised, they alighted, and rayning all their hor-
ses to the big bowles of an aged neighboring Oak,
gins with the fresh coole current of that plesant spring
to alay the thirst of their hot stomackes, where they
had not long so:ncited themselves in the shade after
their great traualle, but that an auncient Hermite
inhabiting the desart romes of that vnaccuainted
corner, walking his accustomed iournie, by chancie
lightes vpon these wearie Knights, as they were ro-
lling their weake limmes in the delightsome doþt of
that pleasant spring , who as ioyfull to see some crea-
ture,

The famous Historic

ture of whome they might be better directed for the furderance of their affaires, as the other was willing to supple their wants, with that pore provision that himselfe wanted not; they with courteous salutation entertaine him, and hee courteously greeting them with the like wishes of good lucke, requires what, whence, and who they were that had so farre wandred from the beaten wayes of those wide Desarts, to whome Lanclof with reverent regard to his olde age, mildly answers that they were two Knights of the round Table, aduenterers in Armes, that had so the hono: of their order, the credit of their countrie, & the loue of their loue worthy Ladys, undertaken to trauails even as farre as stune and seas, the one would giue them light, and the other afford them land.

Then answered the old Hermite, are you happily come into these Confines: for not far from hence is the great Court of that mighty Monarch Lewes of France, that for the eternall memorie of all succeeding posterity, hath for to trix the strength, valour, & manhood that all the wide world can afford, appointed thre Prises, the first a rich Armur curiously wrought, and richly bee deckt with precious stones, whose worth I cannot in words sufficiently set forth, with al the habilliments thereunto belonging: the next a gorgeoues Bedde curiously couered ouer with beading gold, the fashion whereof farre exceedeth the mouth of the massie wroke, & all the rich adorninges thereunto appertaining: the last but best, faire Celestina his daughter and heire, whome I may well call the wonder of our world, whose beautie I will not laboure to blase, least sayling in furdering that rare report, I should discredite my selfe in seeming curiously to commend that whose least moytie exceedeth the highest reach of any earthly minde: Where may

of Chinon of England.

may you trix the trusse you haue in your sculues, & cut short the processe of your long pretended tourneie: for that thither will resorte all the floweres of Cheualrie, that now flourish over the face of the whele wold: To morrow begins these triumphes, whether in god time you shall attaine, and so that this day well nigh done, will not afford you any further trauaille, please it you but to accept the turis Cabine of a hymely Hermite, and the simple supper of a elliue cheuered man, that having forsaken the vaine delights of his young daies, hath betaken himselfe to the melancholie remembrance of his after life: where to supple your want of meate, you shall haue stoe of welcomes, and when the next morne shall bring glad tidings of the swift inslaing sun, my selfe will directe you backe thither, from whence you far erred in de-skinning your wearie tourneie hither.

These two Knights courteously accepting the pleasure of this aged Hermite, contented themselves that night with the unbolstred bed of a hard hurdle, & when the lively Larke a gladsome Herald to the dawning day, gan with her siluer sounding note to discharge the melancholie gloaming night, hence hasted these faine following aduenterers, to practise their forward indeuours, whome the olde Hermite ducly directes how they shold againe get into the great traced way that direclys would carrie them to the Court, and so with manie prayers for their god spede, committeth them to the charge of him that carieth the care of all creatures: from whence they had not long trauailed recounting to themselves the happie chance of they spede ariall, but before them ouer an even leuelled plaine, they might espie a wide beaten way, being full fraught with viell approaching trauallers, that like a huge and mighty streame sending all his

The famous Historic

his force to the sea, turns all the course of their con-
ueiance to one end, directs their iourney with al sped
thither, supposing that to be the way that shold lead
them to the Court, and those trauailers wandring
thither to be witnessles of the rare report of those deeds
of Armes, wherof their old Hoast had the other night
gwen such great commendations: where when they
came, they found it to be even so as they before imagi-
ned, and turning themselves that way whither pres-
sed the streme of the increasing company: At late
they overtoke a myghtie knight clad in habilliments
of gold, such as was the Armour of Achilles, moun-
ted on a blacke Barbarian steede, that with his stately
gate stoutly contened to put downe his spalter in
pride, trapped with the rich pompe of Persian worke,
curiously set with starres like Diamonds, that play-
ing with the dazeling beames of the golden Sunne,
dimes all the gazing eyes of the greedy beholders: be-
fore him rideth richly mounted ten Esquires bearing
ten lustie Launces, and thus marching in a triumph-
phant a state as ever did Cesar in the Romane strates,
he comes to the Court, where were readie prepared
all necessarie circumstance for such Knightly seru-
ices: where before the Court vpon a plaine grane
provided for that purpose, the attendants appointed
to bee erected a stiche pavillion of wealthie wrought
Crimson like, the robes of the same colour wrought
with Alter thredes, and what els belonged to the sup-
porting thereof was workemanlike wrought of
the same mettall: there till the time that every thing
was ready for the Tilt, he reposest himselfe, whens-
Lancelot longing to knowe and proue what was con-
cerned with in all this p'st, boldly gins inquire of an-
attendant vpon him what he shold be, who answe-
red that his spalter was sonne and heire to the great

Soldan

of Chinon of England.

Soldan of Babilon, drawne from his Country with
the same of faire Celestina, for whose loue hee came
thither, to aduenture his life.

Shortly after approches the place another puissant
Knight clad all in blacke, and he onely attended by a
little Page that boze his Lance, erected a sable Tent
of whom when he required to knowe, it was answ-
ered that he was called Triamore, sonne to the Duke
of Britaine, who for that hee had long affected this
beauteous Prince (for whose sake all this was prou-
ded) and shee with like affection answered his loue,
seemed discontented in himselfe, that shee shold be
offered to any but himselfe.

Next him came many other of whome were too
long severally to dilate. But in the ende when all
were ready, & every thing for these stately triumphs
orderly prouided, the Prizes brought forth, the
Judges set, and every other appurtenance orderly
appointed, the first that entred the Lists was Ferdi-
nand heire to the Emperour of Almaine, mounted on
a white Courser, that being artificially arrayed with
cunning conceited wings, Peggasean-like deceaved
the earnest eies of euery beholder, with a shewe of
sained flight.

Against him prepares a Pagan, myghtie of body,
and cruell of countenance, who furiously meeting,
like the fatall opposition of two Elements, shiuers
their strong staves, whose splinters spinning in the
emptie Aire, with their buzzing sound, tells the braue
encounters of their furious fight from whone they
flew, which course the Pagan boorne from his Horse,
and soze brused with the big bound of his unwieldie
body, was convayed from the place of their Chiual-
ric, almost past hope of recovery.

In whose reuenge stepped sooth many myghtie
men,

D

The famous Historie

men, hardie and approued Knights whome this young Prince with like furie , forced to fall with their followers : till at last like an angry Boare newly rous'd from his drowrie den, busting vp his big bissells , as aiming at an act of rigorous revenge, leeps soorth the proud Soldans sonne, and he pricking his Palfray to the end he might rigorously root out the springing hope of this young Prince, clapping as heauie a Launce in his strong rest, as euer Ajax soore the walles of Troy shiured for the recouerie of their vnhappy losse: even like the furious stroke of two strong streames , that earens of their neare neighbours: metes in the midest of the Lists the lively Lordes, where with equall encounters they were both dung downe to the grounde, where Ferdinand his horse unhappily falling vpon his Masters leg, so bruised it, as hee was not able againe to recover his saddle, but was conueyed thence: which when the young Soldan perceaved , stoutlye triumphing in his valiant victory gins sauncely to proclaime apownd challenge against all Christians, for the revenge of those soore punished Pagans : which vaine glorious vaunt so stirred vp the never vanquished valour of valiant Lancelot , as that addressing him to the fight, gins shew himselfe at the other ende of the Lists , as ready to recover the almost lost Honour of his Christian Countrie, whome so soone as the Soldan had espied, spreading his wings like a graye Colchauke houering over a fearefull armie of cowardly Fowles, gins addresse himselfe to his former demeanour: whome Lancelot with such courage encountered, as bearing downe both horse and man to the ground , astonisched the unchristned staine with so fearefull a fall, as almost quite expelled the vitall spirits from his bigge swollen breasts ; But yet saving him-

of Chinon of England.

himselfe in so great a daunger of deuouring death , & out of all hope of the Pittifull compassion of his eager enemie, beganne againe to rouse himselfe , and spedily preparing his strong fencing furniture , to assay the fortune of a furious fight , casting over his shoulder a large sheltering shield and brandishing in hys hand a keene edged Cuttle-are , gins nowe a stote to assayle him, that before on Horse backe hee did assault.

When Lancelot perceaved it, he provided himselfe for the like purpose , and couragiously encounters this harme hammering Heathen, where betwixt them againe beganne a farre more fiercer fray on stote , then was the cruell encounters before with their Horse, which continuing very long on both sides confirmed with the fierce falles of their unwildis weapons , makes at length Sir Lancelot du-Lakes armes (weakened with the issue of much blood, that the Pagan had spilt with his blowes) almost to falle of his former forces, which beeing espied of the Christians, and especially of the King, who aboue all other, despised a Pagan shoud possesse so Princely a Prize, as they had there provided , gins every where to enquire of that Knight, on whose strength almost nowe depended their whole estate, to whom at length word was brought that it was a Knight of King Arthurs round Table , whose name was Sir Lancelot du-Lake , to whom all the Confines of Christendome hardly in Chiualrie afforded a fellow : which stroke such a dismal dumpye into the moodie minde of this discontented King, to see the Champion of Christendome so neare vanquished, vnder the pittilesse power of a most hellish heathen , as almost drives the bright and Rosall colour from his afore well coloured Cheekes.

The famous Historic

Till when this still triumphant Knight shakeing himselfe as from a sluggish slumber, reaches at the Pagan with such power, as that at one blow with his well tempered sword, hee quite cuts a sunder the strong turret that hemmed in his head, & settling further downe to his harmefull head, batters a sunder the bluer lwall that shieldest the principall partes of soule seruing fence, and the rest remayning remants of that little world, wanting the direction of their greatest guide, altogether faile any further to fence their fainting fellowes from his battring blowes, which slight h[ad] no small content to the almost sickly soule of the King, who expected nothing lesse then the so speedy death of his spitedfull foe, who being by the conquered disarmed of his rich habilliments, was by the rest of his company quickly conuainced to his cunions Tent, and all his attendants sent home with sorrow, that whilome flourished in such hope for felicitie.

After this appoached many other Knights to trie their fortunes in that fight: from whence Sir Tristram du-Lions won the hono[ur] of that day, still working for greater glorie with more manlike de meano[ur]: Till when the nights blacke shadowe, gins set an end to that dayes bright shoores, and so every one expecting the end of their adventures, thonght to heare the iust judgement of that faire censoring Senate, forepointed by the King to determine of this doubt, who with one assent after they haue highly commended the many valerous daedes of divers couragious Cauleers, did aboue all wholly attribute the hono[ur] of that dayes dutie to Sir Lancelot du-Lake, as one that had best deserued it of them all, and so putting him to the King, at whose hands he was to receave this renouued reward: he there with no lesse pleasure to heare the

of Chinon of England.

the marmering noyse of the muttering multitud, buzzing the report of his valerous daedes: then with the hope of those rich rewardes appointed for the Conquerours meed, receaued at his kingly hands al those robes, of more than estimable estate, and whatsoeuer by due was fitting his desert.

Amongst which was that more than faire Celestina, for whom rather than the rest was assembled such and so many mighty men, euen from the furthest Coasts of al the Esterne Kingdomes to the Westerne Iles, bound vp in the Oceans bosome: but for that himselfe had before settled his seruice, to honour that Saint whose Ide a graven with the Diamond points of Christall caruing eyes, in the impregnable table of his secrete heart, whence no furie of newe assaulting force, can euer wash it away, determines in this to layme to himselfe the report of more worth, than by his former acts he had fully attieued: and therefore with many thankes to his Maestie, receauing the rewardes of his honour, which no[n]e lay all in hys power to dispose after some conference, such as to like affaires are most fit, calling for Sir Tryamore, at whome we before told you, that he was sonne & heirs to the Brittaine Duke, gins thus discourse his honora ble intent.

Since quoth he the vnmerited mercy of euer help ing heauen, from the great attemptes of many more myghtier than my selfe, hath attributed the honour of this day to the vndeserved dutie of my daede: By the censure of which sentence, I am to enjoy the possession of all this pleasure, whose especiall god, rests in the glorie of this more than a Goddesse: yet since my minde not cappiable of her loues impression, because alredy it retaineth the beautie of another, in suchsure possession, as that no time can trie it, no heu-

The famous Historie

tie blot it, nor other loue with languishment latish it away, to thee will I gine what I might by right take away, and so gaue more honour by the voluntary release of her loue to thee, then I should get same by the forceable detayning of her affections to my selfe: In which I shall binde thy loue to me, as to a friend, her liking as to a fauorier of her fortunes, and further the faire fruite of a yet scarce blooming bud, in the blessed bosome of anothers beautie; & so deliuering her frely ouer to Sir Triamore, twirt whome there had bane afore such settled likeing of likely loue, to the Kinges great content, the louers full consent, and his owne more furthered intent, he disposed of the greatest parte of his prize: the other severall rewards he determined to send ouer into England to present to his Laura: for whose conueyance he adressed a trustie Esquire of his owne, that from a childe had followed him in all his actions of hono: where awhile he must leauie him to his further aduentures, and prosecute the presentment of his Prize to his pearles warramour, which by his Page was quickly performed: who flying with the fauorable fortune of well wilching windes, in shorther space than commonely accompanisched such tirred trauellers, arived in England at the olde Earle Cadors Court, where was then a Royal assembly of Courtlike company: to whom when it was knowne that there was arrivid one ready to tell straunge tynges of the conuincible attachmentys of their late soultune fyning friends, assembled all to gether to heare those welcome newdes into the Earles great Hall: where both himselfe, his daughter and his unsemely sonne, as also the rest of that Royall resoyder were placed with attentive diligencie, quieted themselves to heare expellid those strange exploits: to whose presence did please a comely Esquire attended by a

Djudging

of Chinon of England.

Djudgirg Dwarffe that was loaded with a rich Armour, who after he had in order rendred deseruing duty to every sevral assemblant, thus deliuered hys message.

Great Earle to whelc hono: whelcly submites it selfe the whole worth of his worke, that from the fierce furie of Alians armes hath brauely borne away these Princeley rewards. Grant pards to my rash report, and giue licence to my truth telling tongue in few wordes to disclose the especial cause of my hastie comming: and then with the honorable accidents of these worthworfie wars, gins he to paint forth the praises of that famous fight: wherein from the stil flowing force of many furious foes, had his matchles maister brauely borne away the home brought boies: whch tale he so furnished with fitting Epethites, and true titles of aduenturous valour, as never sung the sweet tuned tongue of heavenly Tullie in the famous Capitoll of still renowned Rome, with more applausive speeches of a truth vrging tale, extolling the eternized hono: of those thrice famous aduenturers with the heauen scaling stile of a moe than earthly Oration: and then with the blaske tragicke tunes of strange misfortune, such as was the Art framed action of that Thracian Knight, when he described to dolosful Dido the true story of Troys estate: To whose powerfull speach listned the attentive care of that pitty mouing Prince of whom we before told, whē the happy heauens dispersing now the sable vale of sad faced fallie, that so long in the darke dungeon of ignominy, had lockt up the happines of his after hopes, being now able in himselfe to see, that which before in another he could not discerne, even as the Eagle after her age casts her bill, the Serpent slides off his skin, or the Wanton Bucke his harmles head:

So

The famous Historie

So he to the g reat admiration of all those worthy witnesses , sudainely starting at the strange tale of this well spoken Page , griouislie ve wailed the lucklesse date of his forespent dyes that had so sluggishly ouer sipt the young yeares of his youthfull iollitie in the fabling fancies of childish follie : wherein hes neyther had discharged the duty of a sonne, satisfied the honour owing to hys countries seruice , nor won the least part of that worth, that by due desert he saw generally attributed to many men of far meaner birth, & therefore nowe turning his former foolish demeanors to more Princeely promising endevours , he sudainelie sollicited his old sorrow tyred sire, that hee would thus far further his intent, as to graunt him leaues a while to forsake his native coyle , and learne thus to aduenture for hono: in far forraigne lands, whose instant intreatie not breaking the deserteing of further delay, earnestly urged his now more fortunate Father to further so his forward Sonne , as that presently prouiding all such necessaries as to him was most needfull, without any more meanes made for his bottelle abode , fitly furnished him in every point for such a purpose : where eury necessary being prouided, and himselfe now readie to depart, blessed with the many praiers of hys ioyfull father to see hys forward sonne recovered from the helpeles horrour of darke ignorance, to the approuing prouesse of Princeely pulance , and with the well willing wilhes of all his friendly fauorites, he departs his home to seeke his so long lost glorie abroad .

Meane while whilke thus Lancelot had sent over to hys mistris the afore named fauors, speedy preparation was prouided in Fraunce for the solemnizing of this Royall marriage betwixt Sir Triamore, and faire Celestina : which for that his father then resident

of Chinon of England.

Dent upon his Dukedeme , was desirous to content his old conceit with the sight of his sonnes mariage: So: Triamore earnestly intreated of the King , that he would so farre farther his olde fathers request, as to licence their Departure home into Britanic, where, to the old King willingly condiscended and most Royally furnished this their ioyfull iourney : whither being attened with sir Lancelot duLake , and sir Triam duLions , besides many other aswell valiant Knights as beauty brauing Dames , drawn out from the chiefeft choice of all that Countrie, merrily sets forward on their way.

In the meane time the Soldan hearing of the disgraced death of his sonne, and certefied by some of his espials , of the pretended purpose of these Christian Princes were the onely sharers of that glorie, gins presently to levy what sover his Countrie in so shott a time was able to lend , and imbarking with all swede his Armie, in shott time landed all his men upon the unhappy Coast of Britanic , where orderly incamping themselves, about the warlike walls of that strong defended Towne , where the Duke with all his attendants kept then a puissant Court for the welcomming of his sonne and his beautecus Bride ; cutting off all those conueyng passages , that leades any way to their neighbour compassing Countnes , remouing all semblance of succour from their longing sight : And being further certefied of the vvere approach of that triumphant troupe of valiant victors, that fearing nothing lesse than such trothlesse treason, wares out their iourney with such ioy, as exprise in farre meaner mens matters proues passing all other pleasure.

Whose purpose the subtle Soldan purposing to prevent, in an old ouergrown wood, scituare scire

The famous Historic

four miles from the Citie , sily inclops'd a great
Scout both of ho:se and scote : who as soone as they
had encompassed this carelesse company within their
ill intenciong Armes , rudely rusht out vpon them
Who soz because their comming somewhat too sudden
in with the other Knights , could hardly prouide to re-
st their foreplotted purpose , and the numbers so far
different , as scarcely might they afford one Christian
to twenty Pagans , whereby they were forced to a su-
rious fight : In which same onely Lancelot , Tristram ,
and Triamore all were slaine , and Celestina mang're
all their force , conueyed away in the fight . Which
when they perceaued , like thre spraged Lions , a
midst the troopes of the Forrester's feareful inhabitants ,
ravages vpon the cursed tarkales of these bushy trees ,
ned Curses , till when no more fuel was left for that
fire , no remainder whereon they might wroke their
further reuenge , nor any other subiect for their con-
quering swords , hope of recovery was past , because
their numbers were too great ; the farts of further
fight in vaine , because themselves were too weake ,
and being desperate almost , what way to take to find
reliese .

Long time they spent in disputing what were best
to do in this extreme danger , themselves being sore
wounded with the many blowes of their ouer num-
berd foes , their Armes bruised with the oft falling
forces of their Foe-mens swords , and their weapones
almost all broken in this barbatus battell , incites to
their sadde thoughts what secure meanes they might
scke for their best safegard .

Being thus left destitute welnigh of all defences ,
they wandred vp and downe the vntrodden wayes of
those wast woods , one reciting this , another inditing
that , and the third misking both ; till when the
comforle

of Chinon of England.

comforle covering of the sad faced night , gins hide
away the lise ioyng sight of the lightsome day , when
these sorrowfull sighing soules wandring in the un-
peopled pathes of these wide Woods , spent all that tedious
night in tyred travells , sometimes straying this
way , and then stepping that way againe , till the sor-
row of their soruer chance had almost quite taken a
way the ready remembrance of them selues .

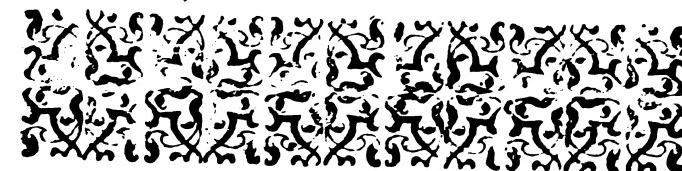
At last as every sorow hath an ende , so had this
long night , and the pleasant spring of the next insu-
ing day gins somewhat to cheare vp their troubled
mindes from the cruell cares of their ouer passed
paines , when determining with themselues to make
speedy post to every severall Christian Kingdome , and
from thence to levy such powers of people , as should
perforce make this heathen Hel-hound again to ren-
der vp to their handes this beauty staining Bride ,
whom he had so cowardly caught away : Till wan-
dering together downe the pleasant side of a summer
shoowing hill they might espy beneath in the broade
bottome of a dismal dale a great worne way , yet
not such as accustomably are the conveyances of
peopled beaten pathes , but as it were the fatal foot-
steps of some mighty Monster that with his ill fau-
red state had pollard the sprouting spinges of that
pleasant Plaine . Which after they had a long time
followed , prying every way what this wonder shoulde
import : At last they a farre off might heare the unac-
tustomed cryes (as it shoulde seeme) of some tor-
mented soule , that beeing grievously afflicted with some
straunge tormentes , made those ruthfull moanes to
move the compassionate mindes of some wayfaring
wanderer to deliver her from that great miserie :
which they like two lost felowe's in a great growne
broude , that with the resounding Echoes of the
lows

The famous Historie

Ioynde scriking eries , bringes themselves after long search together agayne , who listening from what like-liest place this same might grove , at last vnder the darke shade of a Chiltring Cyprisse that overhung the mouth of a craggie Caue , he went out (as it shoulde seeme) of the big body of a rimous Rocke , they myght perfectly perceue the same to procede : whither peching in all hast , striuing who shoud stand in most red for the release of this losse (as they supposed) rudely they together ran downe without regard into this darke Denne , who as sone as they were in, from out the dark e couert of another cabbining Caue crept forth a myghtie Monster , framed with the deceitfull face of a faire woman , but the big body of a subtil Serpent , whose poison stoune bowelles bearing the breadth of a myghtie Tunne, was suppozed with the ioyntles legs of a Castle carrying Elephant ; hands had she in forme like a man, but in the substance of her stame more than a monster , a tayle that Serpent like catcheth in the unprovided traualers , her backe strongly fensed with broad buckling scales, that proudly opposes it selfe gainst the toughest Steele, her force more than could bee comprehended within the reach of a reasonable conceit : for she (after her Crokable complaints she had) yawning the harmer leste Knight into that subtil snare, quickly rootes vp against the mouth of the hole a myghtie stome , which the force of many men could not els remoue , and so locking in these wel meaning men within the compasse of her loathsome Denne , she leaues them to the comfortlesse consort of their nowe almost curelesse care.

How

of Chinon of England.



CHAP. IIII.

How Chinon after his transformation from his foolishnes, betooke himselfe to seek for forraigne aduentures, and after how hee encountrid Sir Lancelot, and Sir Tristram in a Forrest, where hapned a straunge aduenture, and how Chinon pulled a sword from an inchaunted Rocke of stone.



This had Chinon crossed the Deas out of his owne countrie, and arived in Fraunce where hee never came before, and himselfe yet ignorant in the course of traualle, wanded vp & downe a long time, seeking some worthy work wher he might make triall of his strength . But for that the desolate Coasts bordering vpon the sea side, afforded no matter for his manly courage , after he had there spent some few dayes , he takes a new course of travell oare the vntrodden hilles into the bosome of the next bounding Country.

Which weary way, for that his hōſt being young

The famous Historic

and not yet bled to the hard hap of adventures hirselfe, euen as a childe that newe sprung from his cradle, can hardly countenail the worlds weary works; so fared it with this newe knight, who was grovy of glorie, but vnfit to finde it: yet hoping of better hap, drawes ent his iourney ouer many high hilles, and then settles her dwone into the melancholly shade of deepe darkened valleys, wher before never footed any earthly creature, saue sonle Serpents, no noyse but the sorrowfull sound of the ill boading Dwle; no light saue the glimmering of a little brame that shinning through the transparant leaues of blacke Cypresse bougheß showed him some comfort amidst this more than the shadow of death: No meate could hee come by, saue such as that vnfruitful earth did afford, nor drinke saue the troubled stremes of an vnpleasant spring, that mixt with the vnholsome sorts of deade dropping leaues full of the filthy slime of sluggish Toades, and many such vnholsome creatures: his bedde the ouergrownne mosse vpon the sides of the mountaine; his pillow the toppe of an vnewen ston; his couering nothing saus the overshadowing bowes of age trembling trees; his nightly sleepes often affrighted with the hilling of many soule shaks, vnacustomable antomes to his eares: yet as he that will trauell upon the sea, must addresse himselfe to abide the trouble of every strome; hee that will enjoy the sweet content of felicitie, must nevres undergo all the hard haps of eniuious aduersitie: so he that wil in this spacious world seeke the aduantage of Honour, must beare base direction of vnseemely misfortunes.

So this yong Prince after hee had long time ban-
died thus without the direction of any way, at length
espies a far off a chalkie path, scaling the top of a high
hill, whether with much adoe at length he came vnto,
and

of Chinon of England.

and after he had long time climed vpō the side of this mount, at length with many wearie steps he attains the toppe: from whose height hee might againe looke backe at his cuerspent iourney: following a longe while the broad tract of that beaten way, presentlie he came to a narrow cut of passage out of the side of a flintie Rocke, where the high hill steepe oze his head, troubles the course of the winde wandring cloudes, beneath the lowlie bottome of a blacke dismall Dale, filled with the furious force of aspyring springs, that working from the wombē of the sea, comen vnto the highest toppe of that mightie Promontany, breakes out againe, and with a fierce fall dwone into the dismall Dales, makes such a hidious noyse: as when the unbridled force of the overflowing sea breakes dwone the boundes of his neigboring bankes, and drovones all the nere placed plaines, with his euer-working waters: Yet Chinon still hoping that after showers, at length would come a sunne; after woes, weale; & after these hard passages pleasanter plaines; with as much patience as hee could, ouergoes this griefe he had, and gins at last to see the farther side of his wearie way: from whence looking dwone, hee might espie a more pleasant dale, whether descending by a dwone falling path that went into the bottome of a Hill he gladly at length attained, and there in a more fresher and pleasanter streme than before of a long time hee had met withall: hee somwhat refreshes himselfe, and beeing content with such fruit as that soyle did afforde him, hee goes forwarde on hys iournie, still searching for that hee coulde not finde: At last he came as hee thought to the mouth of some Cave that was fullie filled vp with the stronge bulke of a mighty bigge stonyne, whose hugenesse was such as could not be remoued by the might of manie men,

The famous Historic

men, where in olde almost outworne letters, were
these lines ingrauen.

In prison here a puissant wight,
Betraied by cunning craft now lies:
Whence no man but a maiden Knight,
Can free him from his miseries,
Whose first tried valour must assay,
To rid this wretched man away.

Which when he had red and curiously considered,
gins to resolve with himself, to assay whether his for-
tune shold bee so god as to performe this seruice,
Where looking round about for him that did heere in a
peremptorie painted challenge keepe the passage of
that place, where this Knight whereso mention was
there made, is by subtillie inclosed, at last sodainelie,
but from whence he saw not, there was a huge de-
fomed Monster, such as besore he seldone or never had
seen, whose shape neyther impxred the proportion
of man nor beast, but a mixture of them both: from
forth the furnace of whose fierie bellie, issues like the
ashes of Aetna, many cloudey mists of darke smoke,
that almost smothered this famous follower of har-
dy dedes before he began the fight, and in this fogge
armed with the bulke of a yong springing Wake, the
fell force of whose fall, had beeне sufficient to haue
ground him a sunder, gins vnawares to assaile him:
which when he perceaved, nimblie leaping backe to
eschue the heauy stroke, prepared in as shorту space as
he could to prouide hymself for this fray, but ere he
ould be in every point armed, gins againe this mon-
ster

of Chinon of England.

Wer the second time to assault him, which he in the
best soxt he could devise, sought meanes to escape,
for to vndergoe it he could not: and then nimblie en-
veyng hymself within the ende of his mighty wea-
pon, with his well tempered sworde gins assay to
worke vppon the Monster, but all in vaine, so: so
strongly was it every where buckled with insesting
scales, as no more entrance was accorded for his
sword, then if he had stroken vppon the hard face of a
flinty Rocke, when the subtle serpent with a sodaines
turne gaue the Knight such a heauy blowe with the
poysoned weight of her strong tayle, as perforce beat
him downe to the grounde, and almost banished the
breath from his body: But hee mindfull of what hee
had in hande, to encounter so vnnaturall an enemite;
long lyes not in that case, but nimblie rousing vp
himselfe againe, gins freshly to assaile his enemite:
who still threatening him with the bigg blowes of his
vnwieldy weapon, puts him every way to his shitt
how he might best shun them.

At last spying a fit oportunitie, he with his sword
indeuoured to cut asunder her vnacustomed kinde of
weapon, which in shorū time he performed, so that
now free meanes he had soz to assay what he could do
vppon her vnwieldy body: But all his labour was
lost, so: so safely was she garped from all entrance,
as not the keenest Steele the smoakie Cyclops forged
for the mighty God of wrathfull warre, could euer
enter into her: when hee trouble d at once with two
illes, the furious force of her serpentine taile, which
now proues her best weapon, and the brimstone fla-
ming which still issued out at the furnace of her fiery
mouth.

At the last after much labour, the weary Knight
tyed almost with his tedious toyle, gins some what

F to

The famous Historic

to retorne backe, to the end he might recover againe his nic lost breath: which flight for that the Serpent did not with such eager force pursue, as she was wont to doe in the beginning of their flight, hee made longer stay to recover thereby better strenght, & then as two furious fighting Skagges that fetching a farre flight, thereby to encounter with more force, begins againe these new olde enuies and with their furious blowes so plagued one another, as if the opposition of two great Armies had sent the noyse of their battering Armes from every resounding echo: till at length after the many fierce assaults of the furious Knight, hys foyled enemy in a sudden as he came, vanishes away, which he suspecting but to be some diuellish devise, with an intent to set vpon him againe at vnwares, gins circumspectly to pere into every corner, to the end he might be sure that no intrapping ambushes of her hoggoblin companions, myght privily lurk to iasme his life: when vnwares he perceaved the mighty stone so meruailously laid ouer the Cauue of it selfe to roulte awaie, and from forth the hole issues out thre godly Knights, two whereof he knew, for hys Countrymen and olde acquaintance: but the thirde which was a stranger he never saw before, these ier they of whome we said afore were by the subtil shifte of a deceaving Syren, cunningly compassed in that Cauue: where when syr LanceLOT du Lake and hys fellow Tristram saw Chinon, that at their departure from England they left foolish in their friendes, & his fathers house, miraculously transformed to a valiant Knight, and so luckily there arived, for their reliefe: no maruaile if with admiration, they woondring wittes were drawne into a labouirth of such deepe conceites, how this might come to passe; that being amazed as were those stone turned people, which ga-

of Chinon of England.

zing vpon Gorgons heade, coulde hardly beleue in their mindes, what was so liuely presented to their eyes, till Chinon perceiving their passion, gins thus to waken them from their drowse and sluggishe dreame.

Fellowes in Armes (quoth hee) the very reporte of whose valour hath from the heauy weight of obscure follie, rowled my deade drooping thoughtes to the liuely remembraunce of a higher mounting mind, not happier shall you be in this your release, than I in bringing you reliefe; in that the succession of after growing ages, shall eternize my name for the opening of this worse than hellish mouth, and for the vanquishing of that more than miraculous Monstre, for that by the one I againe restored to the world two such valiant Knights: and by the other, rid them of a pestilent plague.

Stand not in a maze, for I am the man that lately you left in a world of follie, but now by the power of prouident heaven, raised from that deiction. At last LanceLOT (overcloed with ioy to see him thus fortunate, that whilome was so foolish) regrates his god hap with many ioyfull wordes, such as commonlie passe betwix long parted friends at their vnderexpected meeting, and then sir Tristram likewise salutes hys honorable adventure, with the many great thankes and good wishes of like future god fortune: then sir Triamore for that he himselfe altogether unacquainted with Chinon, although hee had ofter heard hys friendes and then followers in Armes, with mickle griefe to relate the wofull case wherein they left such a Prince, as therer named in England: yet hee begins to enquire of sir Lancelot the whole passed storie of hys friendes estate, who with ioy repealing, what oft with sorrow hee had scene performed:

The famous Historie

kins certesse him in every point according to his al-
king, which when sir Triamore vnderstoode that he
was a Knight of comely carriage and courteous de-
meanor, he forthwith with many gentle greetings
and more thankes to haauen and him for their happy
deliuerie, bowed unto him all the honor of his acti-
ons: Who long preffing kindly friendshippes
and duteous indeuor, to deserue this more then com-
mon curtesie, they were presented with a troupe of
Furies; mongst whome was Oberon the King,
who especially chosing Chinon from the rest, began
with many wordes of wonder to commend his Che-
ualry, for that last being his first Combate, he had so
valiantly behaued himself, as had all the chiefe choise
of powerfull Chyldernome stroue with themselues
to haue excieded his worth, their Forces all loyned in
one, in respect o: him had bene none: And then tur-
ning to the rest of the Knights, tolde them that the
Monster by whose devile they were there deceaved,
was no other than himselfe, who for the desire he had
to approue the Prouesse of this newe come Knight,
undertooke that shape, in reuallall of which wrong
he had prouided a costly sword, which by his Art was
fastned within the close binding body of a strong
Rocke, and he of them that shold stoutly pull it out,
should for his paines myn a Jewell of riche pycce:
which sword was artificially framed for Julius Cesar,
by the cunning crast of a mighty Magician, inhabi-
ting within the desolate places of those darke vallies,
and for that it so pleased the great Director of all
mens dealinges, that that woxie shold come to
naught, for that the valiant Romane was before the
perfection shet of unluckly nature in the Senate, he
had closely reserved it to another use: But who that
should be of al them fourre, of which by necessite must
needs

of Chinon of England.

needes bee one) that as yet was not knolvne to him,
selfe, and then leading them through the darke shadues
of many light lacking vaultes, shewing them the sea-
crets of his close couched Kingdome, bound vp with-
in the bowles of the earth: whether when they were
a little descended, they might partly see armes of ma-
ny little Elues come postling towards him, as speciall
attendantes on his traine, whose busie fingers would
gladly haue bene pinching they: wearie legges, for
higher they coulde not reach: but that forbidden by
the great charge of their commaunding King, they
durst not aduerture it againe,

Thus after their long walke in those close kept
countries, hee brought them at length into a brade
vale, in midst whereof was grauen vp a mighty rag-
ged Rocke, wherein was a faire fashioned sword cu-
riously contrived of many sundry mettals, which
should come by some or other meanes to haue bene
stroken thereinto, where this fairie King told them
they were all to approue their forces at the pulling of
it, and he whose lot it shold be to win it, for his pains
should awaies were it, whose temperature was so
good as would clearely cut a sunder what euer, stone,
mettall, or any harder obiect was opposed against it,
the vertue this, that whosoeuer woe it shoulde never
be assailed by base crasbiting of anie sic deceiptful In-
chanter.

And thus with many words extolling the excellen-
cie of the thing, and promising god fortune to them
whosoeuer shold attaine it. Hee first appoints Sir
Lancelot, who as greedie of this godly weapon, as a
hungrie hauke of her pray, stoutly steps forth, and
laying hold of the sword with a maine force, offering
to unsheathe it, could nothing at all remoue it. The
next was Sir Tristram, and he also offering to doe his

The famous Historie

endeavour there in was also at the first exwelld: Next him steps Triamore, but his force as feeble as the rest let stand still that for which they also strove: till Chinon taking sure hold vpon the hilt, with one hand did more than they were able to effect with all their power: which when he had done, brandishing it about hys head, as prouising therewith to worke some extraordinarie wonders, he straight waies by Oboram's direction was presented with a rich Armour, and all necessarie furniture therunto belonging, borne by two little Clues, which he straight put on, and then girding himselfe with his new got sword, makes all possible spedē to returne as one longing to approue what those rich habilliments did promise: to whome Oboram after a long oration of much prefiguring valour and valiant exploites by him to bee performed, with many offered assurances of what readie helpe rested in his power to performe, whereof quoth he thou shalt ere long stand in need: gives him further, a faire shield, composed by the cunning of a famois Inchantres: wherein was in rich mettall curiously engrauen a stately flintie Rocke, shinered in pieces by the poiner of a naked man, vnder whiche in letters of gold was ingrauen this posie, Nihil difficile, & appointing him a Page of his owne bringing vp, a little ill fauored Elvish Dwarfe, bat trusty it all alayes, commits him to the keeping of good auoizing fortune, till time and his necessity shall againe bring them together.

How

of Chinon of England.



CHAP. V.

How Chinon and Triamore redeemed Celestina from the Soldan of Babilon, after a most strange maner, with other Noble achievementes that they performed in the same exploit.



Thus in a sodaine trance they being back againe conueyed to the place whence he first led them: where they then beginne to acquaint him with all the manner of their triumph in France, the losse of their Lady, the victory of the Pagan, & what els ill hap had betyded them since they departure from the King of Frances Court, which tragick tale so whetted the longing lust of this pearelesse Prince, to reuenge the iniuries of these his so happy next mates, as that he straight gins to devise how he might best worke some speedy meanes for her deliuerie, that nowe was closelie pent vp in delights, farre more worse vnto her than darke Dungeons: which

The famous Historie

which with many hanmering plots : At length hee
thus purposed to bring to passe.

Thou Triamore quoth hee , for that by thy default
this Lady so unluckely lost her libertie, Shalt venture
with me thus to recover her , and these my friendes
shall in a nother sort employ themselves, as I will di-
rect them : then seeing thy yeares are yet young , thy
face louely , and euery well fashioned part of thy bo-
dy fit to further our intent, thou shalt take vpō thee the
shape of some Inchantres , & my dwarffe trimmed
up in other apparrell will attend vpon thee as dili-
gent seruants which thou shalt pretend thou imploy-
est in such secret aires , as none save such simple
laues , will abide to heare: where thou shalt under-
take to procure the likeing of faire Celestina, to affect
him which for that no Welcommer newes can come
to his besotted minde, than the sound of such seruice,
he will easily condiscend to doe any thing that thou
shalt direct him to: whiche beeing done , leaue the rest
to my disposition, and in the meane time these my an-
cient friends shall whilest we worke within, attende
here without, and the next night when the Quene of
shades gins in her quiet rule to dimme the glimering
show of lesser lights, in some secret place , that thou
(for that the hell cannot direct vs in this cuntrie) shalt
appoint to attend our comming: where for the next
dayes arise we will worke a deede of such worth , as
shall eternize our honour in all ages , and make vn-
borne Children hereafter to repeat what exceeding
valour, we for our Christian Countrie (overloaden
with the hatefull burden of barbarous Pagans) per-
formed, and then instructing them thoroughly in every
point of his purpose, and carefullly prouiding to take
away every obstaclē of aduerte suspition , that might
any waies be a hindrance to their well intended pur-
pose,

of Chinon of England.

pose, they meeting all againe on their sturdie steedes
rides forth, till they came neare to the place where as
the Pagan with all his Arme lay , and there in the
same place wherby treason they were surprised, staies
Lance or and Tristram in a thicke Castell, couered ouer
with thicke leaved hollie, where they might easly
shrowd themselves from the sight of all passengers:
whilest Chinon, Triamore, & hys Dwarffe sets boldy
forwārd to execute the sore plected purpose: who com-
ming into the Campe , made it straight knowne to
some of the Soldans nearest attendantes what they
were: Triamore pretending himselfe to be (as afore
we told) an Inchauntresse, that was come from far,
to furth the loue of the great Soldan to faire Ce-
lestina : Which newes when it was told him, scun-
ded no lesse pleasant in hys eares than Aue Cesar at
his Coronation: where charging them straight to be
brought to hys presence, he gins to question with Tri-
amore of his skill, posing him in the relation of kings
past, as how, when, and where he first surprised that
Lady: which Triamore for that himselfe was an un-
fortunate actor in that dolefull Tragedy could in eue-
ry point stily answere him: which the Pagan simply
attributing to hys great skill , giveth thanks to hys
gods that in so god time had thither directed the skil-
full Inchauntresse, by whose meanes he hoped not on-
ly to enjoy hys new toyles loue : but also to persone
such prodigious explots, as shoulde redound to the e-
ternal dishonour of all Christian Countries, and then
begins to question with him about the reconcile-
ment of his loue.

Triamore with a kinē forged tale,gins tell him that
if he would but practise such meanes as he shoulde ap-
point, he wold so Inchaunt the louely minde of that
saye Christian Princesse to affect hym, as maunger al-

The famous Historic

the malice of whatsoeuer opposing power, she shoulde
lose father and friends, kinsfolks and Countrie, &
only bind herselfe to tarry with him.

Whiche soule pleasing sound, did ring inch swete
musike in his rude eares, as that he with all spedde
willed her but to determine what was herein to bee
done, and he with as much expedition would fully ex-
ecute, if it were to the losse even of halfe his King-
domme.

Then quoth Triamore, this night hath Cintron sil-
led fullie vp her empie hornes, whose sauourable as-
pects will fittly further our purpose: when therefore
the silent night hath shut the eyes of every watchfull
creature, thou thy loue, and my selfe, must by some
such meanes as thou shalt best appoint, be conueyed
secretly from the Campe into the bosome of a neare
boodering wood, where wee may clearely see all the
course of the ceastes frames of ieuer resting heauen:
where I with my invocations, and soveraine Magick
spells, will so Inchaunt the minde of thy beaulteouer
loue, as hence soorth shee shall never affect any other
sauue thy selfe, and then pretending to prepare such
necessarie furniture as shoulde fit her purpose, she de-
cided that her selfe and her seruants might a while bee
remov'd into some secret place, where they might
prouide all thinges fit for their purpose, and where
they might haue some speech with the Damosel, which
was spedily done: for a secret servant nerely belong-
to the Soldan, was appointed to direc them: where
by the mesmes they had free talk with faire Cestina;
to whome Triamore begins to relate al that had hap-
ned them since their iorncieue departure, with the
happie aduenture of Chinon for their deliuerie, and
what els had befallon them, in that trauel: and then
comforts her with the hope of escape, by they thus
pletten.

of Chinon of England.

plotted purpose: where long they were reuying their
overpassed paines and recouering in their hoped hap-
pines, till time approached of their departure: when
the Soldan not unmindefull of thys matter, sent to
the Sorcerer to see if all thinges were readie for their
purpose: which affirmed that shee was ordene yoy-
ued.

At last the latest haure is come, when he calling to-
gether all the chiefeest of his Captaines, & acquaints
them with the cause, which tended so much to the sur-
therance of his desire, & intreating the most of them
that they would walke with him out into the next ad-
joyning wood to be witness(es) of this work: to whom
they willingly condescended, & then gathering them-
selues together, after the watch was set, they secretly
departed: where the Soldan stil thinking on the in-
joying of his loue, never dreameyt of any pretendid
treason that might thereby insue, but greedily catch-
ing like a solish fish at the golden baite, they still fol-
lowe on theyr way, till they were come to the place
where Lanceot and Tristram lay hid: where Chinon
casting off his disfiguring mask, begins now to
shew himselfe in his owne likenes, and with a watch
word calling for his fellowes, brauely sets vpon these
their enimies: where in short time they had sent to
hell all the rest, saue the Soldan himselfe, and taking
him prisoner, carries him away bounde: where
Triamore now once againe reuelling in the treasury
of his loue: gins with all humble submition, attri-
bute to the honour of Chinon all the fore passed proue
of this their fortunate seruice which they had perfo-
med.

But Ce'estina that nowe like the Thracian
Damosell returned with the Lordes of her loue from
the dismall Gates of Hell, beginnes with the
teares

The famous Historie

teares of true ioy to prostrate her selfe at his honora-
ble fete, whose force had againe restored her from the
teuous slauerie of loathsome captiuitie , to the plea-
sant presence of life feeding libertie , bowing devo-
ted seruice for this her second life : But Chiron dis-
dayning that the soule faced earth shoulde enjoy so
much as a touch of her haauenly hew, with gentle in-
treatie rayles her vp, and thus replied to her suppliant
speech.

Fairer quoth he than is the common composition
of earthly creatures, and therfore of more worth than
millions , if I haue ought done in this that hath bred
thy content, it is no more than becometh the dutie of
my degree : Then doe not this attribute more honor
for my meede, than is due by deserts to my ded: more
is thy smile towards the reward of a well deseruing
weare, than the rich rewards of many millions of an
others bowes, more pleasant is the sight of an hours
sunne, than the shew of twenty shaded daies: but
thy sight exceeding the brightest shining sunne , that
day is at the mid dayes height the pearcing beames
of every bright eyes sight, more welcome to vs, than
day to the wearie watch, or the repose of a quiet Inne
to a tyred traualler, graces our paines with thy pre-
sence . More worth is his weare that rises in the
rich bowels of the gold growne earth , than hee that
drudges in the bottome of a dunghill ditch , and yet
the last labor is more than the first : but that the sub-
iect exceeding in worth, receiles the reward of his work
more than the traualle graces the thing: but the worth
of the subiect dignifies the desert of the dede, whereby
our credit by the: is maintained, and not thy match-
ies selfe by our might magnified.

Look on hym that for thy loue aduentured his life,
and the rewarde of my paynes is this , that they re-
bound

of Chinen of England.

bound to thy pleasure, and for thē Triamore, shal we lo-
agine thou hast thy hearts content, remember the e-
state of thy old father as thou toldest mee, is compas-
sed within the circle of yonder besiegged walles, still
expecting the speedy help of his forward friends : but
yet hath this nights worke so weakened hys foes , as
that there is no doubt of further danger.

By this with such like chat had they chased awaie
the sable shew of this silent night, and next the sunne
gins with cheareful countenance to looke upon the ho-
norabile actes of their thrise prayse worthy explaynts,
when by this time they were wanded farre from the
place where they first gaue the onset to atchieue this
honour: where Chiron calling to him his two coun-
trymen, gires this carefull charge,

You two quoth he whose honours accents is euerie
where blazed for your valours, shal henceforth leauue
these wandring wayes, and returne with me into our
Country: where I will present to my longing Fra-
ther this Pagan Prince, the first fruits of my May-
den manhood, doing all my humble dutie to hys Ho-
norabile age : but first in safetē let vs conueye these
Fayre friends to their fathers Court, and let them
there safe from further sorrow at home, that haue sus-
tained the harpe brunt of fell misfortune abroad, where
may as many pleasures attend them there in peace,
as honorabile accidents happen to me in warres.





CHAP. VI.

Of Chinons returne into England , accompanied with Sir Lancelot and Sir Tristram , with their most honorable entertainment there.



After that hee had thus aduentured for the recoverie of beauteous Celestina from the handes of the Soldan, that had traiterously tane her away from Sir Triamore , & sent them home to her fathers Court to solemnise their marriage . Lancelot, Tristram , and himselfe, take the direst way that led them home in to theyr own country, that there they might in quiet tell those thinges with pleasure amongst theyr friendes, which they had in trouble performed with labour amongst their foes : In which iourneie no occasion of further det encoutered them amio more, but as farreth with ordinary traillers, they peaceable passe over their tourneie , till they came home into Cornewall to Carle Cadors Court, that was not a little glad to see the returne of his sonne , with god hap to answere the long expectation of hys faise hope ,

h:

of Chinon of England.

he entretaines them with such curte sie, as comonly paste betwixt lost friendes, at theyr vnacquainted meetings.

Chinon discoursing to hys old father the storie of their traualles whose very wordes bredes new life in the dyed swinowes of hys old lumes: as deeth the approaching sunne cherish the decayed winter wome strength of the earths increase. Lancelot hee presents to hys loue the Trophies of his victorie, with many persuasions how for her loue hee had aduentured his life in winning those Princeely Prizes, the chiese wheroft (whose worth exceeded all except herselfe) he had bounteously bestowed vpon sir Triamore, Tristram, he followes on his friends with the praises of them both: first how by their meanes the Lady was attaiued: then how by Chinos devise she was secondly attained, with all the whole history of their former fortunes: where what joy was generally receaved, as well of the King himselfe, and her, that whose life still lasts in the euerliving acts of succeeding ages, famouised as much so; the renowme of his round table, as Alcides for his twelue labors, Iason for hys iournie to Caicos , or the Grecies for theyr triumphes at Troy. Hee now in the winter of hys waninge age, affecting to heare that now of others which before in his youth he had effected the like himselfe, welcomes houie all these weareic wanderers, that had bene so long abroad, writing in the Registeres of other realmes the courage of their own country: as also the peple inhabitants of this pappy Kingdome, that ioyed to see their neigboring lands dispoyled of such riche rewardes as was brought home by their countrymen. Thus when every man had filled his ears with thre report, & ther willing also to further the courage of this young Canaler, summons a solemn

The famous Historic

Solemne meeting of all the Nobles and Peeres of his country to his Court: where when at the time appointed all were gathered together, the King at a Royall banquet, gins to declare the cause of this their calling together, that themselves should see how Princeely he had, and would still pay the rewards of such deserts, as by the adventures of their yong countryman Cliron had bee ne prosperously performed, and then with Speciales accents of honour, telling the victorious tale of his fight, as Aeneas the Tragiche Storie of their fight. he concludes hys speech with the performance of hys promise, which was the solemne orders he comonly vsev at the instalment of any of his Knights, and dubbing him, therewithall appoynts him his place at the Table: where a while he remained, as well to comfort the decaying daie of his Fathers yeares: whome wrestling age had almost now layed along in hys graue, and as the Mariegold that never spreadeth her flowers but against the summe: So he neither opened his age dimmed eyes to beholde the chearefull countenance of any creature save his Don Chiron, and like the melancholly Turtle when her mate is from her sight: So fares it with this aged Earle, that never sleepes but dreames of hys wonne, never is well waking when he sees him not, & never contented with any sounds if he heare him not: as also the entire affection of hys King and Captaine Arthur of England, that inamored with his curteisie, was lost to leaue hys company, he was forced a while to refraine his affectiōns, whose body thought it was maledi in at home, yet was his minde wandring abroad: which the fates foreseing, (as do the careful Parents prouide for their forwarde children) seeke meates for theyd furtherance in that qualitie whereto they are most inclined, looth that so many vertues should

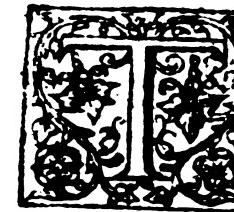
of Chinon of England.

Should be coped within the compasse of a fullle Island, and not spread their branches abroad to the wide world, carefully contained a meane to conuexe hym a way.



CHAP. VII.

How Chinon was by the Fairies comuaied into Egypt.



Was hee spending the pride of his dayes at home in dalliance, letting ruste ate away his well tempered Armour, that warres before had scoured, lying one day vpon a pleasant overspread bank, vnder the couert of a nature stranid Canopie, bound together with the boles of sweet smeling roses: upon whose pleasant sprays late the seuerall sorts of musike making irdes, that with theyr naturall notes, callen an inchaunting sleep to possesse the quiet organes of his body with all pleasing rest, in the midst of a sweet slumber, sudainly appeares to the view of his droanke thoughts, two arie bodies such creatures as we call Fairies, whome some imagine

The famous Historic

imagine to be those sp̄ites that fell downe vpon the earth, and since that time inhabit the severall corners thereof; sometimes deluding mens senses with the shewes of that they are not: other, somtimes showing themselves in the semblance they commonly accustomed to put on, dawning roundelayes ouer the pleasant meades, learing the secrete corners of euerie shade: in which for it shoud seeme they found thys Bright, to whom they gan the we a rich embreded armour, curiously carued and richly set with all manner of pretious stenes, and a faire sword with all the formal furniture therunto belonging, faire passing that which before he had pulid out of the Rocke, and therewithall gunnes fyd his lance, that they nourished his imagination in the perfectest ioye of all naturall delight, with the shew of a faire Virgin, whose r̄ged counte paunce promised more than her outward colour of attire, for that meane were her weeds, such as commonly we read of th̄ Arcadian Shepheardeſſes, whose perfectids haue put to silence so many p̄sons inlabouring to portraſt their picture. But her ſelſe more than a mortall Maid, looked vppon with the impartial censure of a iudging eye, might draw into an emplesse Laborvith, the labouring thoughts of an iudeoing wif, striving with it ſelſe to picture ſo myder worth. Where a while he muſt leane h̄is h̄anfion like ſpending his time in this ſw̄ete ſpeculation, and foꝝ a tyme taſke of this rare ſight here ſhowid hym in his ſleep.

This Ladie was daughter to an ancient, & groſſe named Belshazzar, heif Counſeller to Negbu, then king of Egypt, and was herē eareſtly beſtoured of a noble man named Dardan, who ſaw that he ſalmyng no way he could compaſſe his deſire, neither by antiquitie deſcencion of himſelfe, nor ſuccēſſ of his friends, nor ga-

of Chindor of England.

neſt ſoliciting deſerts of his dumb intermitting gifts could preuaile to drawe toward him the dutre of her lone ho determining by another diſt ethere to win her to himſelfe, & to ſtore her out of conceit with all other, where by ḡt to make with an old Witch, whose name was Europa, wh̄ hydd by him, hammered about to work ſome meane how ſhe might change the ſettled affections of her maide alſyke minde, ſomwhat to encline themſelves to his intent: which when by no meaneſ ſhe could bring about, ſhe ſtraight took a way to rouarie her quite from all company, to live on the unpeopled plaines among h̄uite beaſts, and to that ende auining her actions, by uirtues of an ayrie ſpirit attendant vpon her, ſuddenly conuayed her from the Courſily presence ſat at to an unſrequent plaine, ſcattered by the River Nylus, where ſhe perceiuing her ſelfe displaced, but ſeing no reaſon of her remoue, ſtaltwaies begins to conſider with her ſelſe what luckles ſeation might thus croſſe her in her hopefull course, and wheþ after long ſearch in the ſelſe knowen records of her inward conſcience, ſhe could finde no ready reaſon, how her offences ſhould ame wayes haue prouided to get a punishment, as this unnatural diuorce, not miſly from the conuict of her kindred, but all other reaſon, haueing with all humble dutie alwaies honored her ſuperiours, & with carefull curteſy interrate her inferiors, beeing ever held as the meſſer of god deſirand. And thus ſinding her ſelſe as cleare from thole wronge conuicting lawes, that betwix doſon the heauie world of all iudging Gods & Marpy with diſt ſeacie plagues to puniſh the ſoffences of men, threding manie ſhouldeſ of amber wares, whose power were able to haue drawnne pittie from the ſteel' hearts of hell-holden furries, ſet her downe by the ſide of that ſiluer ſtreame,

The famous Historic

that with his former heads, still sends fresh supple to
the all-eating sea, and tuning her voice to the babbling
musick of his ebbing course, & to the clocking sortes of
sundry fishes, that like the dancing Dolphins at the
Sweete sound of Anions Marke gather themselves to-
gether.

She sings this Dittie.

Ye free borne people from thine entralling bands,
That we poore soules perforce are subject to:
You glide with pleasure ore these golden sands,
And feelest no hope of woe, nor hap of woe.
Time, fortune, foes, nor any other power,
Changes, casts downe, or turnes your sweete to sower:
But we whome nature wrought vnto the best,
Triumphant time still tosses vp and downe:
And they whome former fortune whilome blest,
Cruell misfortune with a suddaine frown:
Casts from a throane where sir'lt we seeme to dwell,
To worser woes than death, dispaire, or hell.

There to薄all with this song she sought to please
her sorrowe solitarily this wicked woman, (by whose
meanes she was brought thereto,) carried through
the crypte vnto her stately chamber, such as was
that searle searching Medea, amouest the sable shadew
of the silent night, overridd so many tops of hillies to
 finde those hearbes, that in the age woe, limmes of
a bloudis man, eale booke freshyng to keep againe
his residence in that body: who presenting her selfe
vnto her in the accustomed shewe at other times shew-
euilly shewed her selfe: begins at her first entrance

of Chinon of England.

to disclose vnto her the manner of translation from
her father and friends vnto these people's plaines,
confessing her selfe both to be Author and acto of this
dreadfull deuise: where quach she set the coy counte-
nances that so oft thou haue repayed to the pitty me-
eting perswations of him, that so; thy loue well ne-
are, wearest out in woe, the daye and watches with
tirrible tormentes the night, that in euerie sentence
he speakes, so oft cites thee by thy proper name, and
himselfe with bare conceit that hee hath, the wher
by consent he rightly shold haue had, pines awaie
per: c loue in the phisike fits of a passionate louer. In
whose reuenge quach she I haue here leated thee by
thy selfe, far from the rest of men, where desolation
shall here teach thee to tell thy selfe that thou art
now worse than wilde beasts, that before estimation
of thy selfe better than faire framed men: where
quach she, till thou canst call backe thy prude presu-
ring thought, to pitty his cast thit so; thspends his
life in such care, here shall thou haue thy abode, and
be as far from any conuiction of others, as they are
from comforting of him, and so sodainely leaving her
againe to her selfe she departed.

At which aduenturation, the maid serued at the
first abayred: yet at length comfates somewhat
more her conceit, in that shee in the meane of her
remoue, and first last after shee had longre remained
there in that people wanting workes, to eschue the ex-
cessio[n] of hernes, and the effect of idlenes, shee did take
her selfe so carfull keeping of some simple natured
spigne, wherof that place was stoxed, of whose woor
she now began to spinne her selfe some homely aice,
that was wont to be robes in the richest array that ma-
rie and lute could afford, and in the meane time, the
inary workes preventing all occasions of further

The famous Historic

misfortune, that mighte be in the continuall of time
have crost them intent, to make meales to ditter die
her wofull Father: who bold de stitute of all his chil-
dren, his daughter the hope of comfort to her, declin-
ing age, through longe poysonous, whome na-
ture had earey way furnished with gifts fitting their
degrees, whose names were Michauder, Tercader,
and Theomas: all these had bee employed in the sprell
of their sister; when as his soes taking the advantage
of their tyme, Perolus that was alio a Comettler,
gins secretlie to informe the King of certayne treasons
pretended to his life and land; by Deslarian father to
thys new Mephecardele, of whiche before we tolde
you: to the end that haring dismisse him of the
Kinges fauour, himselfe mighte the earier effect what
occasional louer shold be offered, and the pore father
left de stitute of all meaneesse suffer his sonnes mis-
fares: whiche the King at the first was loth to beliue,
both for that he had had so long tryall of the fauylle
service old Deslarian had alwaies performed, as also
that hee supposed that such subtillie could ait harbour
in a siluer colored heate: for that quoth he Serpents
alwaies lurke in young greene busses, & not in win-
ter wythored gease, rage aboules deceipts, as it a-
bandons daire delights: & as the bodie warres heatte,
by so much more doth the minde ware strong, as be-
ing noise feed fouch all the intollagations in that
age, wherunto the vaine pleasure of this wretched
world did still entice him to in his yonge: indeuored
the other ready to replie with the heit of his iugement,
heives straight to the King the intermission
letter that so long had passed to and fro, betwixt Deslu-
rian and many of his gaires enemies, for the re-
fecting of their treasons, to which he had so cannily
couert.

of Chinon of England.

couerted the oldmans hand, as if himselfe had
substantially set it dolone, and the better to preue euer
y feuerall circumstance of this his surmised tale, hee
presently produces two or thre pertured compa-
nions, who for that purpose hee had subborued: Whose
substantiall tale tooke such effect, and so farre incensed
the King, that in all haste sending for the old guiltlesse
soule, who was so farre fren pretensing this ill, that
notwithstanding all the erreste occasions that so vn-
luckely had hayned unto him, he spends all his tyme
intending still naught but his Soueraignes god:
where when hee came, the King breaking forth into
impatience, beginnes with traitorous names to up-
braide him, who God knowes was so farre from in-
venting it, that he studied nothing more than the pre-
venting it: and then unripping into him the sozed
treason, shewing him the couerset letter is signed by
his own hand, the feuerall circumstances provied by
such sufficient witnessses, as there pretended them-
selues to be, impatient of excuse, and therfore vtter-
ly denying to haue his further answere, still urged by
the envious invented perswasions of his subtill ency-
plic, gins thus to bewray his hatred.

Experiance quoth he hath taught vs, and the dayly
profe of still present tyme offers occasio[n]e to our eyes
of new examples, how in brute beastes the continuall
of long time grownde perfect loue, as the silly degre
that brought vp at his Masters trencher, in his hinde
remembers his curteis, and kevles nature lends him
liberty of life, indeuor is himselfe still in all duty to re-
quite it, and shall then in their reasonable ruler, be
wysse to these beastlike thinges, by him so ruled
beastes, frises, and other vegetible creatures increasing
from the earth, to them that with care mature their
rootes, & proue their brachis render fruit for a reward,
the

The famous Historie

He draseth them in their suudrie kindes requites their owners cost: as one with his murne, another with hys aere; one with his herte, and another with hys horne; one with hys labour, and another with hys lcur; and shall not then he whome God hath made as Master of all these creatures excede them in his reasonable raign, that subiect themselves reasonles to be ruled. Since first I came to sway the hearts & scepter of this great kingdome, and toke into my handes the cōtūtion of so many people as inhabite these spacious plaines of wide west g̃ipt, have nourished thee even in my bosomē: nearest have I kept thee to my selfe, because I would draw thy affection from all other, & haſte thou now with lope ungratefull snake, stung him in the breast, that so carefullly sought to preſerue thee in his bosomē.

Can it be that under the reverend shoo of such honourable age, ſhould reſt the undeserved thoghtes of vnreverent revenging rage. Is there ſounde ſoule diſtice in faire gold, bad ſhōwes on god ſubſtances, & can there be ſuch hatred in ſure hearts? I, I, I ſee the ſayre ſomer ſhine hath his ſodaine ſhower the belt blottedte is oft times ſore blaſted & the truſt friend p:ouere oft the moſt trecherous ſoe: But as no man comendis the ſtarie morning, nor the ſhōwre night, the fruſtrate hope of his frutte, ſo; the bad blaſted ſecret friende, when her turnes to a ſore ſcratching ſoe: which ſimile I to thy ſelue muſt now applye: that vnder the faire ſhow of friendſhip, haſt ſecretly gone about to overturne my estate, & bring this weiguered common weale to a ruinous decayed wreake, which fault is ſo appaſtant, both by thine alone hand ſufficiently ſet forth, as also conſirmed by the Cōfia-
ment of others: as that my patience, ſcarce with-
ting

of Chinon of England.

ing it ſelue within the bounds of euill behaviour, can not abide to heare any excuse, and therefore will I againſt thee pronounce this heauie doome for thy ill deſeruing deedes, the punishment of death were a pleasure to thē, ſo that ſo I ſhould eafe thee of a great deale of ſorrow, if thou ſhouldſt ſtill continue in thy best ſtate thou werſt likely to ſuſtaine, and therefore from henceforth like a cursed creature, ſhalt thou wander in the world and eafe the bitter bread of banishment in a ſoraine ſoyle, that whilome liuedſt ſo ſweetly in thine owne naturall ſeat, and ſo for euer I banish thee from the compaſſe of this Kingdome, to burie thy ſilver haireſ in ſorrow, that haſdeſt ſuch hope to harbour them in their graue with ioy.

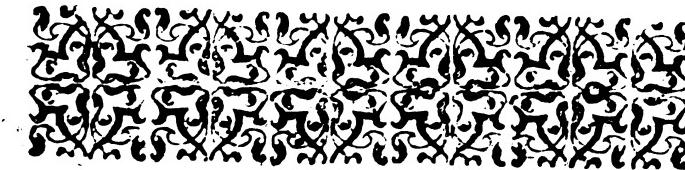
At which wordes the olde man not able to ſpeake for the abundance of teares that ſtopped vp the way of his wordes, was forced to leaue him without further reſplicē and hopeles of any helpe, patiently to de- parte. By this time had the King (more to puniſh his ſuſpicioſe amis,) ſeazed upon all his goods, to the ende he miſt leaue him no ſuccour to ſauie himſelf abroad: which when he ſaw, ſorrowfully ſighing to himſelfe, deſperately departeſ away without any further following the King, ſo the repeale of this his puniſhment, and ſtraight way betakes himſelfe to hys tra- uaille: which when Perous perceaued how they now had brought euery thing even to the bent of their own bowgins glorie to themſelues in their likely proſpe- riſtice, purchased by the hard hap of an others aduersi- tie: but on a ſodaine Europa, the Witch by whose counſell all this trecherie was contrived, looking fur- ther into the matter what was likeliſt to follow: by theſe meaneſ perceaued in the ſpeculatie glasse, how that the rigiſt reuenging gods had by many means determinea her release: as firſt by Chinon, who in for- that

The famous Historie

that purpose they had brought out of England: then by her brethren, who had undertaken to search all the world for their sister, and lastly by her father, whose gittles banishment could not long be concealed, & the heing called home to hys former place, woulde take such meanes for her recoverie, as their power coulde hardly prevent, and therfore to escape these inuring illas he thus determined to deale. The maide who though she was from thence far remote, and in a place whether lay no ordinarie passage: yet foreseeing how at length that all would hit vpon that way, incloses by her wicked warkes this faire Damsell within the ruine of an olde Rocke hard by the riuier side, vp on whose bankes before shē made her abode: where accompanied with shadowes of naturall creatures, having faire womanly faces like her selfe, that seemed to outward sence of the far beholders, to make her merrie with melodious musike, but to her selfe she found it far contrarie, prouing nothing els but a harsh discord of misliking sounds: which outward semblance was for this purpose by them provided, that it might somewhat satisfie any idle beholder, to see that her prison was rather a pleasure, than anye such paine as shoulde moue the mindes of men to venture any thing for her release: Where pōre soule shē nowe copt vp in a Cage that before tooke her pleasure upon these spacious plaines, like to the beguiled bird, that vnwares falling into the Sowlers gin, is nowe razed vp in a littell compasse, that whilome was intent to play vpon the broad branches of every springing plant.

Now

of Chinon of England.



CHAP. VIII.

How Bessarian her father was by the Witch turned into the likenes of a Beare, and how he met with his sonnes in that shape.



WHEN haning determined of her, they straight waies begin to striue with themselves how they might devise some p̄ixt to remoue the feare that they had of her Fathers rising againe to his former state, which by the meanes of Europa the Witch they thus contrived.

Whē calling to comsaile her attendant sp̄its, by whose meanes shē brought to passe all this matter, gins gne them severally in charge to vse their Artes in plaging of this pōre man, which they shoulde surely effect, as no hope shoulde be left of any more comfort to come unto him; where beatng together their hell h̄d braines, they thus concluded with the selues, that they woulde chaunge hym from the shapē of a man, into the b̄t b̄dy of an ugly Beare,

The famous Historie

and so let him die a beast that was boorne a man, and farther yet, to aggrēuate hys wres, which might not withstanding this enue haue an end, they intended in his disguise to hasten on hys death, i. al by some croſſing occaſions, as oftentimes are vbiually ſene vncer- pectedly fall out for the release of Magickē bandes, which they thus determined when they had wrought their willes in hiſ transformation, about hiſ necke they hang a ſcroule, wherein were written two verſes which were theſe.

He whose good hap ſhall kill this beare,
That man ſhall haue hiſ hearts deſire.

Thinking by thiſ meaneſ the better to drawe on every mans myght, to the effecting of their former plotted purpose, ſo that all men by a naturall instinct ar grēdie to get any hope of purſuing their purpoſes, though oft times they doe it with the danger of the ylues: where the oldman turned after thiſ manner, wanders through the woods, clogged with the burden of ſelue ſaſing ſorrow, and in diſpayre of reliefe, ſetteth hiſelfe to that thralldome without hope of re- leafe. Many were the miſerieſ in thiſ ſhape hee ſuſtained, as the many hungry dayes that in ſpite of hiſelfe he was forced to ſpend, ſo that hiſ ſtomacke was not uſed to ſtede upon ſuch filthie carion, as thoſe beaſts accuſomably do uſe, the raw reſtelle nightes without couert hee muſt now continue, the want of hiſ friends, and ſearc of hys foes, with a countelleſe company of moſe grieſes than the capacitie of man can conceaue was conteinued in hiſ, being then as a beaſt, ſauing that ſtil he retayned the uſe of hiſ reaſonable ſoule, which they by no meaneſ could make to miſerrie. In the meane time the Witch now in the midſt

of Chinon of England.

midſt of her busines, ſeeing in her ſpeculatiue Glaffe (wherein ſhe vbiually ſaw what accident ſoever was likely to happen) the approach of her Brethren, who (by tracieng vp and downe in the World) were ſome of them come neare (at vntwares) to the place where ſhe was; poaſted her ſelue with all ſpeed, the better to proſper her purpoſe, and with violence inforcs a ſpirit (one of her owne Attendantſ) to uſe the organes of her bodie, to an ende which her ſelue had deuiled: that was, to ſend ſundrie wayes her Brethren, who were like ſeparally to come thether where now their Sister did loiuſme.

And by that time thiſ Hag had brought thiſ purpoſe to paſſe, Michtander her eldeſt Brether (that now almoſt wearied with walking vp and downe among the high desolate Hills) had framid his iourney towards that Riuier, the which with hiſ ſwelling wa- ters moystens once enerie were thoſe pleauant Egyp- tian Plaines, to reuerefhiſ hiſ tyred limmes in the coole Creanies of thiſ pleauant Current, bathing hiſ ſweet bodie in thoſe reuerefhiſ ſprings; ſuddenly in thiſ midſt of a clauen Rocke he espies ſitting a compagnie of faire Creatures, whereof one (exceeding all lyke the Hunteſſe amideſt the naked troupeſ of her atten- dant Nymphs) hee quickly ſtarkeſ vp and hies to the place where he ſuppoſed they ſhould bee: to which as hee came neare, hee might perceauie the middle moſt Ladie that ſo farre exceeded the reſt, to be Caliopeia his Sister, for whom he had made ſuich ſearch: When in an extaſie of ioy, ſtanding ſtill as not able at the firſt to bter the ſudden mirth of hiſ minde, the enui- ouſ ſtone closes hiſ ſides and shuts them al from hiſ ſight. At which ſudden accident, hiſ ſenes as farre caſt downe as before they mounted themſelues with the hope of recovering hiſ Sister, gins with hiſelfe

The famous Historie

denise what this matter wright meane, till from the Rocke hee heard one pitifull call him by hys owne name; which at length he perceiued to be the voice of his Sister whom before he had seene: and answering againe to her sudden call, gynnes demand by what meane he might come unto her? To whom straight she answeres, that there was no passage to that place: for that by the wicked worke of an envious Inchantresse, she was ther so surely inclosed, as neither force of man, edge of weapon, violence of fire, nor any other earthly meane whatsoever the world could afford was able to auiale, except himselfe would aduenture one thing for her deliuernace. And then shē coniures him by the dutie he ought to his Father, the loue to her his Sister, and the care of preseruing their kindred, that he should vndertake this Aduenture: which he with more earnest desire offers to do, than he could with her former reasons perswade hym to, desiring her to tell him hi's taske, that he might slip no time, but in al hast hym to the performance of this thing, which was like so highly to pleasure the both, her with comfort, and him with content. To whom shē thus begins to vsfold her intent.

Vnder (quoth shē) that toplesse Hill which we call by the name of Taurus, that with his length gy:veiles in the wyde Continent of flowing Asia, vnder the roote of an everlasting Lilly, stands there a Viall full of Virgins teares, that encouterd with thē like crosse as I am now (poore Soule) in, and before her release dyed there for sorrow: to whose eternall memoie, against the infertive rage of this ouer ruling power, the Fates haue there reserved that powerfull potion, whose Vertue is to breake the stongest inchaunted bands; and so shē that by them was thus bound while shē liued, haue the Gods ordained as an Instrument

of Chinon of England.

Instrument to unbinde them now shē is dead. But the still working wits of these wicked wretches, hatchyng nothing but harme, intending nothing but what is ill, and perfourning nothing but that which tends to our plague, haue to prevent that which is thus provided, strongly garded the ground where thys Cylall standeth, with the power of a slyght killing Serpent, such as we call a Cockatrice, against whom no power is able to preuaile.

At which words, Terpander breaking her from his furder discourse, gynnes to perswade his sister a little with patience, and ere long hec doubted not by hys meane to work her libertie. And thus like the swifte Grey-hound that suddenly lets out to follow the swifte foote dñeire, flies he to attaine his purpose, beleeuing as his sorrowfull Sister did, that there had been that vertue in the water, but it was onely the receipt of her deadly Enemie, that determined to make away all her Bretheren whose indeuours were else likely to worke her release: and therefore (as before wee said) inforred her tung to tattle that which her minde did not meane, whereby shē might bee theyr deaths in seeking to do her god.

Not long after Terpander had thus b: taken himselfe to his iournie, with hope that her release from that place shoulde repay the deserpes of his paines, comes to her the second brother, whose name was Micander, and he as the first ioyfull to see the ende of hys iournie, which was the sight of hys sister, begins after the manner of newe met friendes to resalute her, and as he offered to haue killed her hand for ioy of his god happy sodainely the Rocke shatting her from him, deuores a sunder b:th their desires to resalute whose proffered kinnde, shē speaking from her prison, telles him with teales to mister of her inclosure

The famous Historic

inclosure, intreating him by all the true loue that nature woxes in the mindes of men, that he would undertake some meanes for her freedome; which he redier to offer than sh: willing to inioyn:, calls to hys solenime bow all the Gods of Wrauen and Guiders of Earth, that were it a greater toyle than to number the sands of the Shoure, the droppes in the Sea, or the Starres in the Skie, more haue than the burden of Atlas, more toylsome than th: Labours of Hercules, or more tedious than the Laborynth of Theseus, hee would with ease vndergoe it, with courage performe it, and with pleasure proceed in it: and therefore ha- stened her forward (poore Soule) to pronounce hys harme.

She gins tell him, that in the Deserts of Arabia ress Orion Harpe, brought therer by the meanes of an Iachauuntresse, to release from the thralldome of such subjection as now I am in, a valorous Knight, whom another Magitian had there impysned: and sayling by some crosse occasion to perfourme th: purpose wherewnto it was bought, there still remaines; but kept by a man-eating Canniball, haning neither the forme of a man, nor the fashion of a beast, but compound of them both. Him (quoth shee) if thou canst overcome, and bring backe that well tuned Instrument, at whose stroakes the dauncing Dolphin delighted, beares on his backe wosull Orion from the furie of the fierce swelling seas, when by the Pirates he was cast among the waues. The sound whereof wilbe sufficient to vndew th: doyses of this diuelish deuise: for which dide thou shalt bee blessed, and I bor- rowed from this punishing prison. Whiche said, the forward yong Man, loath to loose time by standing on reply, gets speedily from the place and hies him to his labours.

After

of Chimon of England.

After whose departure, by chance (as did both the first) comes Theonas the yongest and last of these brethen, who at a sudden seeing his Sister there inclosed in the Rocke, gins as did the other, to resalute her with such louing looks as accustomable passe betwixt longing frends at their first meeting: wher after manie words on both sides, Theonas woxring why she should sit so still in her seate, and not offer the like curtisie he intended to her, gins to draw nearer the place where she was, when on a sudden, the Rock (clssing together) denies his nearer approach: at which, shee sorri within and he as sad without, gins both of them distil as manie amber teares from their christal cies, as might haue dissolved againe the craggie clifffes of those vittiles Rockes. At length shee (as afore to the other two) gins tell him the manner of her life, and intreats his aid for her release, telling him of a perillous Iland that w: is somtyme kept by a skifull we- man named the wise Erganea, where on an Altar in a Temple (there built vnto her name) lies a golden Booke, in which (quoth she) is contained all the Enchauntments that Arte can afford, and their severall releases again, kept by two Harpies (such were those monstrous birds with whom Alcides fought, and for his conflict with them was so great, it was accounted as one of the xi. Labours hee atchieued): thence if thou canst but fetch it away, it wil be the only meane to worke my release, and end thy long desires and tedious labour.

Whereto the yong man attentively harkening, as one that longed to eternise his name to succeding posterities, for the perfourmance of some such famous Worke, makes small delay to prosecute this busines, with comfortable promises of fairer dayes, cheiring and comforting her minde, leaves her to the mercy of her

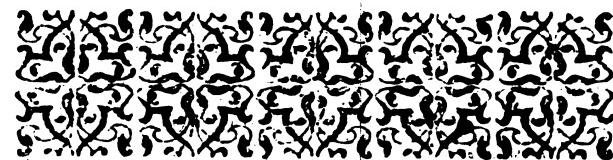
R

her

The famous Historic

her Foe, till his happie returne make her moze for-
tunate.

These severall Adventures by her imposed on her
Bretheren, had this Witch before provided, only for
a meane to destroy all them that should in this labour
indeuour themselves, and perforce made her tongue
the unwilling Instrument to incite them to this ill :
who otherwise intended their indeuours onely for her
good.



C H A P. IX.

How Chinon came to the Rocke where the
Ladie was inchaunted, and what happened
thereof.



At this time the Fayries (by whose
meanes Chinon was conueighed
out of England) had brought hym
to the place, whers in the wilson
whilst he lay asleep under the Ar-
bour in England, they shewed him
the faire Shephearde, and had
taken their leane, telling hym, how (by his meanes)
that Ladie (now in Captunitie) was to bee released :
but how manie dangers hee must first passe through,
lest him there to follow his farder fortune, with great
promises that after labour he should finde rest, after
nozmes

of Chinon of England.

Formes calmes, and after frowning aduerstie sing-
ling prosperitie : and so on a sudden vanished away.
Wher he (soaking vp and downe for her, whome by
no meanes he could find) wondring how so rare bea-
tie could be bred in such a homely soyle, whereas the
Earth was vnfruitfull for want of tillage, the Trees
vnorderly bearing frute for lacke of prunning, and the
severall Beasts disagreeing in their owne kynnes for
want of ordering : plainly the true definition of soli-
tarie desolation, that oft abounding in all things, is
cause of decay to euerie thing. At last as hee wande-
red along the Riuier, he heard excellent musique, and
a more excellent voyce tyme forth this Ditie.

How sweete a thing is this Content
To which poore countrie Swaines are born
These falls of Fortune they preuent,
And other hard mishaps doo scorne.

Oh how thrice blessed had I beeene,
If (but obscure in countrie weedes)
Those mightie men I nere had scene,
Whose loathed loue my sorrow breedes ?

But such is the vnconstant state
Of this still-changing Worlds delight,
Making the meane a Princes mate,
Crossing high hopes with low despight.

Which makes my Soule (in sad despaire)
Die here ten thousand times a day,
Woond vp within a world of care,
Whence nought can it release away.

The famous Historie

When hee following the sound of the voyce, at length found her where she was sitting in the hollow side of a Rocke, he immed round about with a shew of such creatures as her selfe, to whom Chinon givnes thus to bewray himselfe.

Ah thou more than thy selfe, in that thou retainest too heauenly a forme for anie earthly frame. How impartiall are the Fates that turnes the never standing Wheele of Fortune, to grace with so continuall a Sunne this Hoyle, and lote with obscure shewes on other places. Goddess of these plaines that giuest more grace to these fields, than did the Goddesses to the place where they pleaded for the golden Prize. Hadst thou liued in those dayes when young Apollo loued, then hadst thou been the Paramour of Learnings Prince, and guided his will that now gouernes the World. For thy sake am I transported from the furthest place of the wide western world, into these eynged plaines of euer ouer dried Egypt. For this will I follow the aduentures of Armes, so that when for thy sake I haue sought the world, and with my sword engraued (in never changing characters) thy God like name in the farthest corners of all breeding Earth, where no consuming fire, cutting sword, nor eating eternitie shall euer weare awaye thy memo- rie: so that for my labour thou wilt reward me with thy loue.

When with exceeding passion he had deliuered these speches, with more than common admiration he paused, like one that were suddenly amazed wyth the shewe of some unacquainted sight, stood a long while as in a traunce: when as the wylie Witch perceiving this new come Companion likely to warre what shee and false Peroul (by their practises) had bee: so long a making, beginnes to take once more the

of Chinon of England.

the charge of her tongue, and thus boldly begins to tie him to his task.

Faire Knight quid th^ere, whose willing minde to do me seruice, wins more reward than I am able any wise to bestow: If I were what now I am not, then would I doe what now I doe not, with fauour re-quite thy forward fortunes: but thus it is, and then she begins in a long Historie to relate her frowning fortunes. First drawne from the Court, then personed long time by her selfe to dwel solitarilie vpon that unpeopled soyle, and lastly when shee began to comfort her selfe with that country content: then solitari- ly to shut her vp in that place, where was no passage so: any people to come to her, and shee deprived of all power to come out to them, ther telling how there rested no hope of redresse, if that for her sake some mighty man would not undertake a trebble taske, worse than tormentid Sisiphus hys toyle.

Which words wrought such a desire in the minde of this forward Knight, as bewing to performe more mighie deedes than those deedes of the olde Giants that heaping hill vpon hil assaydo the height of heauen, he instantly begins to intreat that in this her charge, he world admit of him as her Champion.

At which wordes the Hag that all this while had hid her substance in an invisible shad, gins vrgre her to impose vpon him all those plagues she had appoin- ted the other th^ere, and when hy^e persuasiv Oration was scarce done, hys eager minde that alreadie was working for so faire a reward, like the towring hawk, that swiftly takes the aduantage of the fearefull soule fares hee, that proud to himselfe so faire a Saint shold so soone accept of his seruice, and employ him in so serious a pece of seruice as was the remedy of her release, flies with ali sped to effect hys purpose,

of Chinon of England.

The famous Historic.

and shē pōre soule hoping well that one of her workmen would at last returne againe with the reward of their wōke, with comfort contente her selfe to abide the end: where wee must a while leauē her very melancholily meditating with her selfe, howe shē might best spende her tyme in that wicked Prison, thinking every hōure to bee a whole yeare, and euerie yeare a thousand, till shē had heard againe some newes of her searching servants, that had spred them selves all abroad in the wide world to seeke her some meanes for to mittigate her miseric, and restore her to her former freedome againe, and nowe a while follow our severall Aduenturers for her aide, that by this tyme had traualied far from the place where they first tooke in hand this iournie.

How



CHAP. X.

How these brethren came to the severall places appointed by the sister, and of their aduenture there..



Erpander the eldest brother, who first vnderooke this charge, incurrying through the spacious plains of Alia, hopelesse to finde: for that beeing long since, hee came to the side of the mountaine, where hee was promised to finde this bāll of teares, and had almoſt sought euerie ſeverall corner of the ſame, and yet could finde no likelihoođ of any ſuch matter: Not withſtanding loath to leane vnsorḡt any place, where ſhe wed any appearance of ſuch a matter. At laſt he ſaw a farre off the riſing as it were of an Alablaſter Roche that halfe overſhadowed a hole, artificially cut into the ſide of the hill: whether beeing him ſpace to ſit what therby might be meant, came at laſt to the place, and there at the firſt ſeeing nothing that might any waies auaile him, was about to depart againe, till hearing ſomewhat haſting

it

The famous Historic

it selfe worth of the hole, he stood stil to see what it might bee, at last appeares vnto him the forepart as it were of an ouergrowne Cocke, but farre greater than any of that kinde, that with his fierie eynes poysons every object he sees, against whose force Terpander had prouidly prouided a bright Armour of Steele, which couered euery severall part of him, en whome when he looked, the reflexe of hys sight, sending back agaire the dart of poyson to himselfe, that hee threw out at another, powerfully poysoned himselfe, the hinder part of this beast was framed after the manner of a Cocodryles tayle, such as are commonly resident about the bankes of Nilus in Egypt, that with the force thereof had bene able to haue bruised the best proued Armour: with which when by the retrouation of hys ouer sight, he had lost the use of his eyes hee lustily laid about, till such time as the upper part of hys bodie sorelyly sweling with the inward working poyson, made him so vnwieldie that now vnable to wealde his body any more, was forced to fall downe, and with the power of the poyson shortly after died: which when Terpander perceaued that his foe was so stonne soiled, taking it to be the place of which his sister had foretold, by reason that in her discourse, she discrived vnto him such a like keeper of that precious water, as was this same, that there kild with his owne weapon, lay dead before him, gins diligently to search vp and downe for the thing it selfe, which at last on the other side of the rocke he perceaued: where vnder a faire Lillies roote stode the treasure for which he had spent so much paines: which when he saw, hertely thanking those helping heauens, that had so mightely, not only preserued him from the sores of hys foe, but also helped him to the inheritance of that hee so much desired, goes boldly forward to the place, where hee saw

of Chinon of England.

Saw this Lillie spring, & taking awaie the viall which he poore soule tooke to be no other than the teares of a virgin, that by such kind of meanes as his sister had discrived vnto him was placed there, and about to returne with ioyfull newes of his sisters deliverance, hee had not gone farre from the place where first hee found it, ere the viall beginning to warme with the heat of his hand, sodainely by vertue of the venomous water therein inclosed, infused such a contagious heat into every severall baine and sinnow of his bo- dy, as that wherewith the poysoned shirt was that enraged madding Hercules: So this poore man, that for his god meaning, was thus recompensed with ill measure enraged with the extreame paine of his inuenomed limmes, gins fall into a frantike humor, leauing the way shold lead him backe againe to hys Sister, and furiously without regard of himselfe, gins reuenge hys iniurie vpon sensles and brutish beastes, that had now lost all the power of a man.

This was the end the sorcerers had intended shuld betide to him, that in hope to fetch his sisters blis shuld ther e finde his owne bane, and by some meanes or other kill himselfe, or els vnable so with reason to rule himselfe, shuld fall into the daunger of some wilde beast, who without pittyng his case, might cast hym away. where we must leaue him in his lunacie, and come to the second brother, who by this time was attainted to the appointed place, scituare in the bosome of the Arabian deserts: where vpon a Cypresse branch he might a far off discerne the golden instrument, on whose trembling stringes the beauteous beames of the sunne delights to dally: There vnderneath this dismal shade, so that now the sunne at the Zenith of this Sphere, darteres downe his perpendicular beames with such force vpon the face of the earth, as

L

makes

The famous Historic

makes euery creature seeke to shelter himselfe in the coole shadues: for which cause this monster was then crept vnder the Cipresse shadowes, and ouercommed with the heat of the aire was then faine a sleepe: to whome whēn Micander came neare, diligently beholding each severall part of his deformed body, for that the instrument hung high vpon the tree, and without stryking this stubbe ne brast could no waies be come by prepares himselfe after the best manner hee could to Combat with this Curre, and whēn he had buckled on his Armour, made ready his weapon and was now encouraged to encounter with hys enemy, gins with some such noylē as then hee made to rouse hym from hys rest.

Whēn as the Canniball like the throtted Dogge whome I heireus awaked in the Gates of hell, sends out such a hideous crie, as affrighted the neigboring Birdes and Beastes that inhabite that part of the world with his terrible sounde, and shaking of himselfe, gins shew in hys upper parts the perfect forme of a Dogge with long eares, which long dangling eares that exceeded the substance of the greatest spanniels, hung well ne downe to his middle. From the middle downeward he had the shape of a man, big boned as are these wilde people that living lawlesse in such unrule place, feeding themselves after their fashion vpon the fat of the earth, cut growes the common sort of well guided people, and taking vp from the earth a great Iron club, such as was in his iudgement too big to be swayed by a man, without any warning gins fall to his weapon: wheres betwixt them two was begun a dangerous fight, & long time continued with uncertaine hope of succes, till Micander nimblly eschewing the weight of his weapons fall, gins get within his reach, & so carues his skinne and bones

of Chinon of England.

bones with his well tempered sword: which for that purpose he had only prouided, that in short time hee made him with the great issue of blood that all from hys wounds so weake, as he was not able any more to beare the waight of his blowes, but was forced to fall vnder his foe: which whēn Micander perceaued, he straight waies dismembers him of all his limmes and leaues nothing behinde for his helpe, but the naked bulke of his body, and then reaching downe from the tree that fatal instrument, (which the Witch to another end than hee aimed at had prepared,) gins turne back his course, and with that Consort, hie him home to comfort his sister.

As thus hee was traualing to his long wished for place of ariuall sodainely hee determined with himselfe to trie what was the harmonie of that famous instrument, that with his sound coulde call the censemesse trees from their rootes, renouue the craggie Rockes from their Cliffs, mitigate the reuenging wrath of brutish devouring beasts, compose concord betwixt the Lambe and the Lyon, the Hound and the Hare, the Falcon and the sillie foule: whose strings he had no sooner touched, but determining with himselfe to sing some delightsome Ditty to the swete tenth of these siluer sounding stringes, for ioy hee had compassed his desire. The powers of his tongue deuyng any more to recute their office, hee was sodainely stroken dumbe, which was the plague this Witch had pretended should light on him, by the spagickē made sound of this Instrument, which was nothing els but an illusion as were all the rest, to draw these brethren into danger, where we wil leauē him making what shifft his dumb demeanors affordes him to travell homeward, and come now at last to the third brother. Theon as that by the fauorable hope

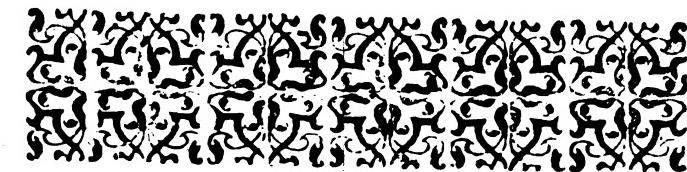
The famous Historic

of winde and weather was nowe arived vppon the perillous Iland : where comuning into the Temple of Erga, the wise Inchaunteresse, that was richly adornd with all peculiar thinges therunto belonging. At the upper end thereto vppon an Altar of cleare Christal that was couered with a curious cloth of gold, ouer whome was hung the perfect picture of an ancient woman, which woman was the forenamed Ergane, there twixt two golden Candlestickes that were filled with two continuall burning Tapers censing the Temple with sweet sauours, lyes a golden book which was kept by two harpies, monstorous brydes, halse women, and halse Serpents , that with their winges so beats the young aduenturer, as hee was scarce able to abide theyr force.

But as hee that looking still vpon the goles is better incouraged to goe forward , hee that sees the harbour, takes greater paines to get home , hee that is neare an end of his labour, thinkes all the paines but little hee hath to spend : So fares it with Theonas, that looking vpon the end whereto hee had endeuored himselfe, thinkes the paines but a pleasure hee indured, & in short time so behaued himselfe, as that he had ouerthownde one of hys enemies, and then like the Hart, that by casting his horne, renues his strength, the Eagle by looking his bill strengthens his sight so he at the sight of hyr fall, begins to fight a fresh , and in short time had the like succes of the one as before he had found in the other: so that nowe there was no partition betwixt him and his pray, but that he might take away the booke, to which whcn hec came , opening it that hee might bee an eye witnes what iras there included , in stead of those powerfull spelis that thereto he shuld haue read, from out the closure thereof came such a dultie fogge , as filling his eies with a blacke

of Chinon of England.

blacke myst like unto pitchie smoake he was suddenly stroken blind, and there left to grope his way back, that came thether with the perfect vs of his eyes. This Booke (as were both the rest) was nothing els but a deceipty of the Inchaunteresse, to drawe thether one of thse Brethren ; where (in stead of relēuing their Hister) they might intchal themselves. Thus pōre Theonas (euē in the prime of his Sp̄ing) haung lost the vs of this light, which is the especiall comfort of mans life, wandres vp and down like old forsaken Oedipus in his exilde life : where we must a while leaue him in this pitteous case with hys Brethren.



CHAP. XI.

How Chinon met with these Bretheren seuerally one after another, and what became thercof.



In this time was Chinon come to the place where we first left Thersunder mad after hee had taken vp the Gicell of Water : who seeing hym fare so with himselfe, rending vp trees by the rootes, tearing vp mightie stunes from theyr places where they stood, and tumbling them downe from the tops

The famous Historic

tops of high hills, into the bottomes of deepe vallyes; who (notwithstanding his misfortune) kept still the quall about him untouched: to whom Chinon came wondering to see what man shoulde walke that waye, begins to question with him about the manner of his comming thereto? To whom the mad man say vnlike himselfe, so that before he was courteous, but now contrarie to his kinde hee had changed his countenance to haire-brained crueltie and in stead of courtesous behaviour, answeres him in rayling opprobrious termes, and at the length begins with force to assaile him as an enemie; which Chinon perceiving, closing with the mad man as hee came to encounter with him forceably castes him downe, & taking from him the viall of water, which all this while hee had kept closely in his handes, beginnes to looke what it shoule be the pore soule had in such request, when suddenly by the like mischance that the other was changed, himselfe was with Lunacie presently possessed: and raging like Ajax after his foyle for Vlysses hys armour, or mightie Alcides when on the Mountaine Oeta he built the Altare whereon himselfe was sacrificed, tearing his clothes from his backe, the hayres from his head, and launcing with deepe wounds the limmes of his bodie; releases Tuppander from the plague wherwith he was possessed, and brings it vpon himselfe. Which the other perceiving how hee was deliuered from that daunger, pittied the wofull estate of this worthie Man, but helpe him hee could not, for that such was his invincible strength, now by the force of his furie much more augmented, which force neither man nor beast, stocke nor stone, nor any other creature whatsoever was able to stand in hys hand: so that in short time, what with his vnorderly traying through vnreuested passages to finde sy-

ell

of Chinon of England.

ell for his fire, and his swift paces that stil ouer-went the other wearie wearie man, who had tyred himselfe before in his furie, Chinon was quite gone out of his sight, wher in we must now leue after the recouerye of his wits, trauellung home againe into hys owne Countrey, to seeke out some other meanes for the release of his sister, and folle we Chinon, who raging and rauing like an angrie Lion at last ouer-takes Micander, who (pore man) as quiet for the sorrow he had lost the vse of his tongue, as the other vnruleyn his rage, seeing him a farre off, staid still to expect the euent of his sudden approach; when the madde man comming to him gins with vnseymly behauior to abuse the other pore distrelled Soule, and wyth force pulling from him the Instrument which he was louth to lose, though by it he had incurred such a displeasure: yet at last Chinon farre stronger than the other perforce pulls it away, and a daying with hisingers to strike the strings, was at the first scand therof stroken dumbe, whereof as soone as Chinon was possessed, Micander was straight waye released. Which infirmitie when Chinon perceaued in himselfe, redoubling the rigour of his handes for the vse hee had lost of his tongue, gins furiously to fall vpon Michande and beate him, for being the Author of his ill: which the other perceiving, farre vnable to sustaine the strenght of his stroke makes meanes to escape his hands, which by his swift flight hee soone attayned. So in shert time riddig of himselfe enough from the feare of this see, hee for his owne safteie, takes home the next waye hee could finde into hys owne Countrey.

In the meane time Chynon wandring wyldly thus abut the world all carelesse where hee went, because how souer hee turned, euerie where lay

The famous Historic

lay his way, at last comes dwone unto the sea side, where by chaunce he findes a boate readie furnished with all provision neceſſarie for the sea ; who (after the manner of ſuch madde men) leaping thereinto, (though ignorant what to do or careles whither to go, more than to ſatisfie his mad humour) launced fro thore, and making ſhift to ſet vp his ſaile, was quickly conuoyed farre from the ſight of anie Land into the midſt of the merciles ſeas, ſayling too and fro manie daies not fearing to be drownd, because he perceived nothing : nor expeſting anie place whether to goe, for that he scarce knew, where he was either at ſea or on ſhore. But at the laſt (ſlying with his Barke before the land) he was ſuddenly driven on ſhore vpon an Iland, where (leaping a land) he betooke himſelfe to traualle vp into the countrie, to ſee what people it diuined: where he had not long trauelled, but a ſarre off upon the ſide of a Hil he eſpied one ſadly ſitting by himſelfe, towards whom he made what haſt he poſſibly could.

This was the yongest Brether of thſe thre, that before we told ye of was ſtroken blinde by looking into the ihafted booke; to whom when he camme, ſuddenly ſnatching the booke out his hande (after hys fond furious fashion) opens the claspes to ſee what was therin contained, when ſuddenly illued out ſuch another fogge, as that wherewith Theonas was ſtriken blinde, and in like manner bedazels his eyes: when preſently Theonas was againe reſtored unto his ſight, and wendring to ſee there ſo godly a man poſſeſſed with ſo manie plagues at once, gimes them with himſelfe conider how it ſhould come to passe: who ſor that himſelfe was unacquainted with what had happened to his other Bretheren, could geſte at none but that which lately he was puniſhed bythall him.

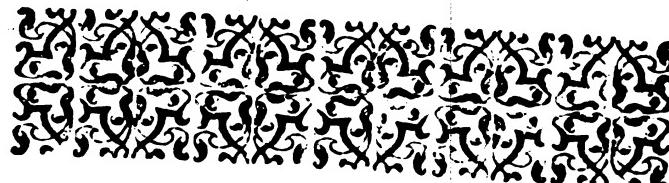
of Chinon of England.

himſelſe: one, for that the reaſonleſſe Man (ſc̄ all theſe troubls wherewith hee was tormented) could not (by his meaneſ) be brought within the compaſſe of quiet behauour, thought it beſt to provide ſome meaneſ for his owne eſcape, and leauē hym there to the mercie of G D D, that would not be ruled by the meaneſ of a man; ſo he betook himſelfe to his tourney, where wee muſt alſo leauē him (ridde by thyſ meaneſ of a miſchiefe) retourning to ſeke hys Bretheren, and take ſome other ordeſ for their ihafted Sister.

The Inchauntre ſe now (that all thiſ while ſaw the iſſue of thiſ matter) greuing that her cuuining ſhould be ſo croſſed, and yet loyng that all thiſe puñiſhments were liȝt vpon hiſ head, whom ſhe before feared more than all the reſt: ſet all her wiſe worke, to deuife a meaneſ how ſhee might (now haſing him at ſuich a vantage) make him ſure for ever eſcaping out of her hands againe, forſeſing, that by hiſ meaneſ all thiſ ſcattered bindred were likely to be reſtored againe to their formeſt estate. And therefore (by her power) incloſeſ him within the clift of a Rocke, againſt which ſhe rouled vp a miȝtice ſtone, ſuch as the force of manie ordinarie men was not able to remoue: and ſo leaſt by any meaneſ he might be recouered out of thiſ inchaunted Caſtle, ſhee places as Porter before the doore thereof a miȝtice Grent, twice as great and grim as the ordinarie kynde of ſuich ouer-grown Creatures vſe to bee. Where, when ſhee was incloſed (ſuppeling him now ſafe enough from anie reſort that ſhould bring him reſeſe) ſhe was content all hiſ plagues ſhould ceaſe, and hee (the more to aggrefuate hiſ griefe) be reſtored againe to hiſ wiſts; which was eſſected as ſpedily as determined,

The famous Historie

No sooner was he closely shut vp into that uncom-
fortable Cabin, but all his Instruments (by whose
meanes he came by those crostes) as his Water, his
Harpe, and his Booke vanished away, and he him-
selfe restored (as I before said) againe to the same ex-
tate of sense as he was before, his libertie onely ex-
cepted: where we must now awhile leauie him in his
melancholy Cell, and retournie againe into England.
To see the sorrow of olde Cador Duke of Cornwall, for
the sudden departure (without taking leauue) of Chin-
on his Sonne.



CHAP. XII.

How Arthur of England sent three of his
Knights to search for Chinon, & how they
found him.



Ador Earle of Cornwall whilst that
these things were thus by this di-
uelish Inchauntresse effecting, did
spend his yeares in sorrow for the
sudden losse of his Sonne, and at
last (wearied with too much grief)
he intended to make some friend-
ly meanes to the King, for to haue his royll fauour
and

of Chinon of England.

and helpe for his recoverie. Therefore on this deter-
mining, he repaired one day to the Court, and there
finding the King and all his Knights, as carefull for
his croste misfortune as himselfe, gins in very hun-
ble manner (yet with honourable regard) thus to in-
crease his Maiestie.

Most royll Soueraine (for whom from my first
able yeares my seruice hath beene imploied) vouch-
safe me in my decayed yeares this kingly ccmfort:
Send forth (I beseech you) some of his worthie fel-
low Knights to seeke Chinon my Sonne; who albeit
he hath yet deserued little either of your Grace or of
them, yet his forward endevour hath alway showne
he would much more ere this haue merited, had not
envious fortune crost him in this sort.

To whom the King and all his Nobles present did
most willingly condiscend. Then calling together al
the Knightly companie of his Round Table, decla-
red to them Duke Cadors request, and his owne rea-
dinesse to haue it undertaken: who all were not one-
ly to goe in Quest of Chinon, but each man manifest-
ed his more than common earnestnes, by taking of-
fence if anie one were named beside himselfe. To
ende this controuersie, the King thus prouided, that
euerie man shold drawe his Lot, and on whom soe-
uer it fell, that Knight shold forthwith chuse hym
two Fellowes from the rest of the Companie, and so
they thre shuld take upon them this desired traueil.
The Lots accordingly were made, and euerie one of
the Knights dre w, and the Lot fell upon Sir Calor,
who was Sonne unto Sir Lancelot du Lake and the
beanteous Celestina Daughter to the King of France,
whose Parents Chinon before valiantly rescued, be-
ing betraied and taken in the hands of the traherous
Poulain.

The famous Historic

But before their departure, it was thought conuenient (for the better furtherance of their Journey) to take some counsell of Merlin, who then lived accounted as a Prophet in England, and by his skill could tell of secrete things forepast, and hidden mysteries to come.

Merlin beeing sent for by the Kings commandement, came to the Court, and shewes them in a speculatiue Glasse the manner of his departure out of England, the manie troubles hee had endured in hys Journey, and now at last opens at large the whole manner of that great miserie whereunto he is now brought by the meanes of that subtil Inchauntresse: telling them further, that except they made verie exceeding great sped for to procure his release, hee was likely to dye there for want of release, being there detained from all necessaries fit to sustaine a man; or at least having of those necessaries a verie short pittance allowed him.

Merlin hastening them forward on their iourney, promised al the cunning he could afford for their spedie conuoyance, which he effectually perfourmed, so that in short time they were arriued in this perillous Iland: where after long search for the place wherein Merlin did promise they shold finde their friend, at last they might espie this monstrous man, iaylour to that vnfortunate Knight, stretching himselfe at the mouth of the Cane wherein Chinon was kept. To him they made all possible spedie, and first of all Sir Calor addressing himselfe to fight, gins before hee offered violence with courteous greetings to salute hym gently, demanding what he was that lived so desolately in that vnreuented Iland: To whom the detested and currish Cartle made this unmannery aunswere,

I am

of Chinon of England.

I am quoth hee as thou seeest, one within whose clawes thou and the rest of thy lawcie companions haue compassed your selues: if therefore you will submit your selues to my mercy, then will I thus dispose of you here within a hollow Cane he wone out of this craggie Rock, wherein lyes inclosed a knight such a one as you are, who for the like offence that you now haue offered, is condemned to the eternall flauerie of perpetuall impisement, within shall you spend your hatefull lives, and when for hunger you are welme starued, fall freshly then to eate one anothers flesh, but if you stubbornly stand out against me, thus will I dispoyle you in renting your cursed limmes pece meale a sunder, or els fastning you seuerall to the big bulks of some of these trees: where when the imperiall punishment of hastning hunger shall seaze upon your selues, you shall there be inforced to eate your owne flesh, that might here haue fed upon another, to whome Sir Calor thus answered.

Foule vglie fiend, we come not to knéle to thē, but to force thy subiection to vs and for the release of a Christian Knight that thou keepest Captiue within thy power.

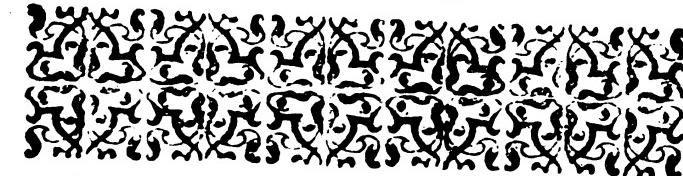
At which wordes the Giant seeing them aduersell themselves to fight, presently bestirs himselfe, and taking an Iron mace, (which to that ende the Witch had prouided) lets drue at Sir Calor with all the might he could, from which he nimblly leaping away eschied the force of the fall, whē as the other knights comming in to rescue sir Calor, before the Giant could againe get vp his weapon from the grounde, they had so mangled hys limmes, as he was now far vnable to fight, but falling prostrate downe before them, humble intreats for his life: which they were willing to graunt, as not seeking the losse of him, but

The famous Historie

The life of their friend , to whome the Giant gins relate all the manner of the imp;isonment of Chinon, and at the last opens the doore of the Cave, and calleth him out to his friends , who resaluting one another with such friendly greetings as are vsuall at such aduenturous accidents , take their iournie from thence vp into the Countrie, and soz that the Giant had tolde them in hys former discourse of the manner of Chinons imp;isonment, how that Perosus for whose loue all this had come about, had in Egypt taken Armes against the King, soz that his treason being discouered, he intended to recal old Beslarian from his banishment, and that his power so daylie increased, as that it was now far greater than the Kings, they intended to shape their iournie therewards and help the king in his warres against this traitorous rebell: where woe must let them goe toward a while in their iourny, and returne againe to our thre aduenturers for their sisters libertie.

How

of Chinon of England.



CHAP. XIII.

How Bessarians sonnes met with their Father in the shape of a Beare.



Afier that these thre yong men were againe restored to their former estate, Terpander the first of them traualing homewards to sake againe his sister, meetes by the way his transformed Father, who not a little glad to see his sonne, though the other taking him so no lesse than he seemed, made some hast to fly from him, till looking backe and perceaving the scroule about his necke for the regaining of his harts desire, strikes his powre father with such a blow, as breaking his sword vpon the scalpe of his head, he was forced to flie for want of weapons , fearing least the Beare should haue fallen fircly vpon him , béeing tyred when as God knowes the full man astonisched with the stroke, was rather afraid of an vnaturall deathes wound by his sonne, then willing to prosecute any revnge for the same.

Not long after Terpander had thus hurt his Father, comes that way the second brother, who in like case meeting with the Beare and heping by his death to obtaine his desire, gins with a Wo;chspare he had in his hande eagerly to assayle him , in so much that in

tho³

The famous Historie

Short time hee had grieuously wounded hym , but the head of his weapon by chance breaking off , hee was forced to flic as did his brother: to be short the Witch that intended by the meanes of some of these sonnes, to make away their father . After that the first two had sayled, brought the other the third , who eager to accomplish his desire , promised by the scroule that hung about hys father's necke, begins a stetch fight , & so wounded his sille sire , as that for want of blood which hys weapon had lauishly lanch'd out, hee was forced to fall downe, whome Theonus supposing to be dead, left there to follow his desire.

In the meane time whilst these thinges were thus in doing had there bene sought a great battaile in Egypt , betwixt Egbaton their king, and Perosus the traitour, of whome before we told you: where by the meanes of the Englishmen the King ouercame , and Perosus was put to flight: who for his sauuard for sakeing hys Countrie , betooke himselfe to the Mountaines : where after hee had long traueiled , hee by chance met with Besilrian transformed, as afore wee haue t. to you, who hauing some what recovered himselfe after the wounds of his sonnes, fearing least his son should at his sight flic away , layes sodaine holde vpon him.

At which Perosus beeing afraid seeing himselfe assailed, gins make all the meane shee could for hys escape: but the other loath to requite him euill for hys ill dealing, in stede of such rauineus behauour , as commonly is found in such like beasts, gently sawnes vpon him , sheving himselfe rather willing to helpe him, than readie to hurt him,

When Perosus calling to mind hys former offence in the bewitching of the old man , and seeing by the writing about his necke, that this was he whome hee had

of Chinon of England.

so cruelly crost, falleth downe before him , & with mislike teare's intreats his pardon: to whome the Beare though vnable to speake , yet with dumbe de-means shewing the effect of his minde , answers in dum tokens what he could not tel in plausible wordes: to whous Perosus there promised , that heuld hee but follow him, hee woud soorthwith conduct hym to the place where hys daughter was impysioned , & where he hoped also to meet with her , by whose meanes all this was brought to passe.

In the meane time Chinon and his fellow knyghts following their foes from the fight, by chaunce intercepted Europa the Witch as shee was flying awaie, whome presently they intending to kill, & shee knowing very well their cruelle, fell downe before them, humbly asking pardon for her life , and in requitall thereof shee woud restore to liberty, her for whose sake Chinon had sufferedd all this extremity , than which Chinon desiring nothing more graunts her requestes, whome shee presently transportes to the place where Cassiopea lay impysioned: where when they came, they found her thre brethren dilating vnto her theyr severall ill luckes, whome as soone as they came, the Witch released from the bondage of the Necke, and falling downe on her knies askes hartie pardon for her amiss , to whome the Lady glad of her release straight forgives that offence , and then Europa telling her the great perill Chinon had overpassed for hys love: shee with all curse she falleth downe at hys fete, submitting her selfe for requitall thereof to be disposed at hys pleasure, wher he taking vp from the ground, offering himselfe like wise to her.

In the meane time whilst these folkes were thus rejoycing, comes in Perosus leading of the transfor-med olde man , and humbly there asking pardon of them

The famous Historic

them all for his offence, telling them the manner he had found the old man, who was by the means of the Witch presently restored to his former shape, and then returning all backe to the Court to certifie the King of their severall affaires. Bellarius was then againe restored to his dignity, & Perous Guere by punished for hys offence, & Chinon and Calispi by the consent of their frends, and mutuall loue of themselves, were matched together in marriage.

F I N I S.

